



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

**Laboratories Administration**  
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**Specimen Deliveries to the MDH Laboratories for the  
Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Day Holiday 2025**

The MDH Laboratories will be operating on an abbreviated holiday schedule over the upcoming holiday to receive *Newborn and Clinical* specimens for testing. Our Holiday schedule is as follows:

**MDH Central Laboratory**

Saturday, January 18, 2025	<b>Open for Clinical specimens 7:30am-12:00pm</b>
	<b>Open for Newborn specimens 7:30am-2:00pm</b>
Sunday, January 19, 2025	<b>CLOSED</b>
Monday, January 20, 2025	<b>Open for Clinical and Newborn specimens 7:30am-3:00pm</b>

**MDH Eastern Shore Regional Laboratory (ESRL)**

Saturday, January 18, 2025	<b>CLOSED</b>
Sunday, January 19, 2025	<b>CLOSED</b>
Monday, January 20, 2025	<b>CLOSED</b>

**MDH Western Maryland Regional Laboratory (WMRL)**

Saturday, January 18, 2025	<b>CLOSED</b>
Sunday, January 19, 2025	<b>CLOSED</b>
Monday, January 20, 2025	<b>CLOSED</b>

Specimens collected for COVID-19 and Mpox testing can be stored and transported on cold packs refrigerated (2-8°C) for up to 72 hours after collection before delivery to the MDH Central Laboratory for testing.

Specimens that cannot be delivered for testing at the MDH Central Laboratory within 72 hours after collection must be frozen and stored at < -70°C and transported frozen on dry ice. Therefore, please plan the COVID-19 and Mpox specimen collection accordingly over the holiday.

For urgent rabies exposure testing and other after hour emergency testing requests see instructions on page 7 of the Guide to Public Health Laboratory Services on the MDH Laboratory’s homepage:  
<https://health.maryland.gov/laboratories/Pages/home.aspx>