COVID-19 Data Elements Reportable by Testing Facilities

This document details the data elements required to be reported to the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) by facilities that perform COVID-19 testing. These data elements are mandated by Utah Administrative Code R386-702, the Communicable Disease Rule. These data elements are required under Utah state statute and should be collected and reported for all laboratory results for all conditions reportable to public health, not just COVID-19. Clinicians and testing facilities should have systematic and robust processes for collecting and reporting these data.

Data Element Requirement
R – Required, and cannot be blank. All "required" elements are mandated through state statute, and are expected to be reported to public health for every laboratory test performed. Laboratory results reported with missing required information cannot be processed by UDOH. Testing facilities that do not collect or report these data should immediately assess what changes to their systems or processes are needed to comply with these requirements.
RE – Required, but may be empty. All "required, but may be empty" elements are mandated through state statute, and are expected to be reported to public health for every laboratory test performed. Although these elements are classified as "required, but may be empty", testing facilities should have high completion percentages for these fields. Testing facilities that do not collect or report these data should immediately assess what changes to their systems or processes are needed to comply with these requirements.
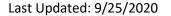
Provider Collected Information

This information should be collected by the provider or sample collection agency at the time the sample is collected and provided to the testing facility at the time of specimen submission. Testing facilities must be able to receive these data and report to public health with the test results.

Patient Information

Data Element	Requirement
Patient full name (first, middle, and last)	R
Patient date of birth	R
Patient street address, including city, state, and zip code	RE
Patient telephone number	RE
Patient gender	RE
Patient race and ethnicity	RE
Hospitalization status and date of admission	RE
Pregnancy status and estimated due date	RE
Date of symptom onset	RE

Order Information

Data Element	Requirement
Name of the diagnostic facility or sample collection site	RE
Address (including street address, city, state, and zip code) of the ordering health care provider/facility	RE
Full name of the ordering health care provider	RE
Telephone number of the ordering health care provider/facility	RE

Specimen Information

Data Element	Requirement
Specimen source	RE
Specimen collection date	RE

Laboratory Generated Information

This information should be generated by the testing facility and reported to public health with the provider collected information within 24 hours of test finalization. Reporter information is necessary if public health needs to follow up on test results. It also serves as documentation for reporting compliance.

Test Information

Data Element	Requirement
Name of the facility performing the test	R
Name or description of the test ordered	R
Test result	R
Test reference range	RE
Test status	RE
Laboratory test date	RE

Reporter Information

Data Element	Requirement
Full name of the person or facility reporting	RE
Telephone number of the person or facility reporting	RE

HHS Required Data Elements

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has required additional data elements to be reported to public health for COVID-19 testing. These data should be reported by the testing facility to UDOH at the time the laboratory result is reported. Many of these data elements have not been included in previous UDOH reporting mandates, and may require testing facilities and providers/sample collection sites to enhance their data collection and transmission processes. HHS has established their own data element requirements classified as required, requested, and optional. HHS encourages testing facilities and providers/sample collection sites to first assess whether they are collecting and sending the 18 required data elements, and then focus on collecting and sending the other data elements.

The complete list of all HHS data elements can be found in the HHS Implementation Guide: https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/hhs-guidance-implementation.pdf. The 18 required data elements, and additional guidance on HHS reporting requirements can be found on the CDC COVID laboratory reporting website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/reporting-lab-data.html.

For additional information, contact the DCP Informatics Program at edx@utah.gov or visit the "Information for Laboratories and Testing Facilities" section of https://coronavirus.utah.gov/recommendations-for-providers/.