

# Protocol for shipping COVID-19 samples to Color

## Important notes on shipping and turnaround time:

- All samples must be kept at or below room temperature, but above freezing, for the entire duration of collection and shipping.
- Results will be available 1-3 days **after** the samples arrive at Color.
- Samples should be shipped overnight the same day they are collected.
- A delay in shipping samples will result in a delay in results and the possibility of the samples expiring.

## FedEx shipping schedule considerations:

- Shipments should be sent via FedEx Priority Overnight.
- Please contact FedEx to determine the latest pick-up or drop-off time for each day. FedEx Drop Boxes should not be used.
- Shipments **Monday - Friday** will arrive the next day if dropped off/picked up by the FedEx Priority Overnight cutoff time using the included labels.
  - **Note:** In the case of Friday shipments, "Saturday delivery" is selected.
- FedEx Priority Overnight does not apply on weekends.
  - Shipments on **Saturday** arrive on Monday with the included label. Please be aware that scheduled pick-ups may not be available and FedEx drop off locations may have limited hours.
  - Sunday shipments are discouraged.
- You may need a different FedEx label if you require special shipping arrangements.
- Please contact covidshipping@color.com with any shipping questions.

## Included materials:

- Large biohazard bags
- Absorbent mat for the bottom of large biohazard bag
- FedEx Temp-Assure Medium boxes with return shipping label, Priority Overnight sticker, and UN 3373 sticker already affixed.

## Packaging for shipping:

- Place individual samples (packaged in their small clear plastic bag) in a large biohazard bag with the absorbent pad at the bottom.
- The biohazard bag should not contain more than 50 samples.
- Tie the bag closed with a knot.
- Place this bag inside the FedEx Temp-Assure box and activate the cooling mechanism.
- Seal the box.
- Provide box to FedEx.

