



## DNA PATERNITY TESTING FAQs

- **What is DNA paternity testing?**

Every person (with the exception of identical twins) has a unique genetic code identified by DNA found in each cell in the body. Genes come in different forms and sizes and are referred to as “alleles”. At each gene location each person has two different sized alleles, one inherited from the mother and one inherited by the biological father.

When the alleged father’s allele sizes do not match the child’s on at least three different genes, the paternity test proves conclusively that the tested man is not the biological father. When the tested man’s alleles match all of the child’s genes, the probability of paternity is determined. The average probability of paternity for our tests is greater than 99.99%, and unless rare mutations are identified, we guarantee a greater than 99.9% probability of paternity in all tests where the alleged father is not excluded as the father.

- **How much does a paternity test cost?**

A legal DNA paternity test (mother, child, and alleged father) costs \$355.00. This includes sample collection and testing. A full price list is available via a link on our website.

- **Can a paternity test be completed without the mother?**

Yes, a paternity test can be completed without the mother if she is not available and the results are typically just as accurate as those of a standard paternity test. We encourage mothers to participate because in some rare cases the allele matches between an alleged father and child prove inconclusive and the mother’s participation allows for more conclusive results. Also, some courts require the mother to participate in a paternity test.

- **What forms of payment do you accept?**

We accept cash, money orders, cashier checks, Visa and MasterCard.

- **Can the DNA samples be collected at my home or another location?**

Yes! For your privacy and convenience we have mobile photography and printing equipment that allows us to offer mobile collections. So we can collect samples from your home, law offices, or any other suitable location. There are additional costs for this service, so please see the pricing link for details. Of course we also offer collections in our office if that is the most convenient option for you.

- **What should I bring to the appointment?**

All adult test participants must bring a valid government-issued ID—such as a driver’s license, state ID, military ID, or passport to the appointment. For minors, a birth certificate, Social Security card, or hospital birth record should be brought to the exam. If a minor child’s identification is not available a photo is also taken of the child to establish identification. In all cases the child’s legal custodian will have to sign a consent form allowing the minor to be tested.



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- **How are the DNA samples collected?**

DNA is collected using cotton swabs that the collector will rub against the inside of your cheek to gather loose cheek cells. It is a very simple, painless, non-intrusive procedure.

- **How quickly will I receive my results?**

Results will usually be available two to three business days after the date the DNA samples are collected. Next day results are available at an additional cost.

- **How will I receive my results?**

Our partner laboratory generates a one page report that outlines the genetic systems tested and the allele sizes for all parties tested. The report includes an interpretation paragraph and the resulting Probability of Parentage. Initial results are sent to Para-Med-Ex from the laboratory within two to three business days after the date the DNA samples are collected for distribution to our clients. The laboratory also mails the original documents to Para-Med-Ex .

- **Will my tests be admissible in court?**

Yes. We utilize an accredited laboratory, and when a legal test is ordered we strictly adhere to the chain of custody procedure during our sample collection process, and this makes our test results legally defensible. The report is a legal, notarized document that can be presented in court as evidence of paternity or non-paternity.