

Intended Audience

The intended audience of this message is the public, providers, and veterinarians responsible for or involved in the submission of animal specimens for Rabies Testing at SHL.

Purpose of this Message

To ensure that individuals are aware of an increased fee for Rabies Testing when there was no human exposure or exposure occurred out of provocation of the animal.

Background

In 2024, SHL began charging a \$25 fee for non-human exposure rabies testing. **Effective February 10, 2025 the State Hygienic Laboratory will increase the fee for non-human exposure rabies testing from \$25 to \$50 per specimen. This increase is necessary to cover the expenses incurred in rabies testing. This \$50 testing fee will additionally be applied to specimens where an animal bite occurred out of provocation.** As always, when there is a human exposure without provocation, there is no charge for testing at SHL.

Action Item

All submitters should review the Rabies Collection Instructions to ensure specimen integrity is maintained and the sample is properly packaged. Live bats must be hand delivered to the Coralville Laboratory in an air-tight, hard sided container.

Several additional resource documents are linked below and available on the SHL website to aid the public, providers, and veterinarians in determining the need for rabies testing. If, after reviewing the resource documents, you cannot determine if a specimen meets human exposure testing criteria, please contact the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services at 800-362-2736.

Resources

[Rabies Collection Instructions](#)

[Rabies Information for Public, Providers and Veterinarians](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions about Bats and Rabies](#)

[Rabies Exposure Management for Bat-related Incidents](#)

[Other Animal Exposure: Recommendations for Managing Human Rabies Exposure](#)