

# NEWS RELEASE



Chief Administrative Office  
El Dorado County

## EL DORADO COUNTY PROVIDES COVID-19 TESTING BY APPOINTMENT FOR ALL RESIDENTS

*Sites on east and west slopes of the County will have capacity to test hundreds of residents daily*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 3, 2020**

**Contact:** Carla B. Hass  
530-621-4609  
916-293-2046

(PLACERVILLE, CA) – El Dorado County officials today announced they will open two appointment-only community sites for COVID-19 testing for any resident wanting to be tested for the virus. The openings follow Governor Gavin Newsom’s recent announcement to add more than 80 community COVID-19 testing sites across the state focused on underserved communities.

“These are not antibody tests to detect whether someone has any level of immunity against COVID-19,” said El Dorado County Public Health Officer, Dr. Nancy Williams. “These are nasal or nasopharyngeal swab tests that will determine if someone has the presence of the COVID-19 virus at the time of testing. We’re making the test available to anyone in the County who wishes to have it, free of charge, even if they are asymptomatic,” Williams said, “although people with symptoms are the highest priority.”

Each site will provide testing of up to 132 tests a day for anyone who has made an appointment. Sites are scheduled to be operational for a minimum of two months.

“There is absolutely no barrier to being tested,” Williams stressed, noting that “citizen status will not be checked, cost is covered either by your medical insurance or by the State if you are uninsured, and if someone is without identification, testing staff will generate a unique identifier number to obtain results. The only requirement is an appointment,” she added.

To register for an appointment, people can visit <https://lhi.care/covidtesting>. Those without internet access can call 888-634-1123.

Test results are expected to take 48-72 hours. All test results will be entered into the California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CalREDIE) site. Patients will receive a card at the time of testing directing them to a site for test results. Patients who test positively will be contacted by telephone by a nurse.

“If you’re curious as to whether an illness you had this winter was COVID-19, this is not the test for you,” Williams stressed.

-MORE-

“Being tested at one of these sites will only tell you if you currently have an infection, which is most likely if you have symptoms now or if you had contact in the last few days with someone who had COVID-19.” Williams said. “Some people are infected who have had no symptoms but they most likely spent significant time around people who had symptoms prior to that, like a household member.”

Testing sites and days of operation are:

**Ponderosa High School** (*Starts Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>*)

Small Gym, enter on North side of Campus  
3661 Ponderosa Road  
Shingle Springs, Ca.  
Thursday - Monday  
Hours: 7:00 AM-12:00 PM & 1:00PM-7:00 PM  
Closed Tuesday & Wednesday

**Lake Tahoe Community College** (*Starts Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>*)

Gymnasium  
1 College Drive  
S. Lake Tahoe, Ca. 96150  
Tuesday - Saturday  
Hours 7:00 AM-12:00 PM & 1:00PM-7:00 PM  
Closed Sunday & Monday

To determine where to locate new testing sites, the state looked at both rural and urban areas where Californians would have to travel between 30 and 60 minutes to reach an existing testing site or hospital. That information was then evaluated based on underserved populations, to address known disparities, and median income, so residents have access to testing regardless of socioeconomic status. They are provided through a partnership with OptumServe, the federal government health services business of Optum, a leading health services innovation company.

###

*Providing safe, healthy and vibrant communities; respecting our natural resources and historical heritage.*