



MEDIA RELEASE

Date: October 30, 2020
To: All Media
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For Immediate Release

“Public Health Officials Announce New Rapid Testing Available at the Health Department”

The LaSalle County Health Department would like to inform you that we have received rapid tests for COVID-19. We will begin utilizing these tests on Monday, November 2nd.

These rapid tests are meant to be used on:

- Excluded symptomatic children who are **not** a close contact to a confirmed case, to help get them back into school.
- Employees who need a negative test result to return to work.
- Anyone who is planning to travel or has traveled.

Testing will be done at the LaSalle County Health Department parking lot at 717 Etna Road, Ottawa, IL. The test performed will be an anterior nasal swab. The results will be given in 15 minutes. Testing will be performed Monday through Friday from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, and Saturdays 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (Election day hours are 9:00 am – 12:00 pm). Anyone in need of rapid testing needs to call the Health Department at (815) 433-3366 to pre-register.

In addition to rapid testing, we will continue to test close contacts of confirmed cases with the (PCR) COVID-19 test. The best time for people to be tested after an exposure with a confirmed case is 5-7 days from the exposure. Testing of close contacts will be done in our parking lot by appointment only. Another option for people who want to be tested is to call the Health Department for an appointment for our Wednesdays Drive-thru testing site. Testing through our drive-thru site is open to the public regardless of symptoms, but you must have an appointment to keep things running smoothly as not to hold up the line.

Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department’s website at www.lasallecounty.org. For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov.

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