



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Joint Information Center

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## **Free COVID-19 Testing Sites Coming to Chicago Southside, Peoria, Champaign and Rolling Meadows**

**SPRINGFIELD** – Expanding COVID-19 testing capabilities in the State of Illinois is a crucial part of the state’s plan to [Restore Illinois](#). With increased testing we can make educated decisions that protect our state, our communities and our families. Today, the State is announcing new drive-thru COVID-19 testing facilities will be available in the coming days on Chicago’s southside (May 16), Champaign (May 19), Rolling Meadows (May 20), while drive-thru and walk-up services will be offered in Peoria (May 23). These free community services will be open seven days a week to test individuals with COVID-19 symptoms and those employees who support critical services.

“Not everyone with COVID-19 has symptoms. Without greater testing, it is difficult to know who is infected with this virus. This could mean a person who thinks they are healthy may unknowingly pass the virus to someone else, potentially with deadly consequences. I encourage residents in these areas to take advantage of this opportunity to get tested for free and to take action to help prevent further spread of the virus,” **said Dr. Ngozi Ezike**, Director of Illinois Department of Public Health.

**All individuals with symptoms are encouraged to seek testing** at these Community Based Testing Sites. Additional accommodations have been made for the following individuals **with or without** COVID-like symptoms.

- Healthcare workers
- First Responders
- Employees of Correctional Facilities
- Individuals exposed to confirmed COVID-19 patients
- Employees that support Critical Infrastructure (grocery stores, pharmacies, restaurants, gas stations, public utilities, factories, childcare and sanitation)
- All local and state government employees
- Individuals with compromised immune systems, chronic medical conditions

## Definition of Symptoms

-Fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell

## Community Based Testing Sites

Harwood Heights	Bloomington <b>(Closing May 22)</b>	Markham
7:00am – 3:00pm <i>while daily supplies last</i>	9:00am – 5:00pm <i>while daily supplies last</i>	8:00am – 4:00pm <i>while daily supplies last</i>
6959 W. Forest Preserve Road, Chicago IL	1106 Interstate Drive Bloomington IL	3824 W.159th Place Markham IL
Aurora	Rockford	Waukegan
8:00am – 4:00pm <i>while daily supplies last</i>	8:00am – 4:00pm <i>while daily supplies last</i>	8:00am – 4:00pm <i>while daily supplies last</i>
1650 Premium Outlet Blvd Aurora IL	1601 Parkview Avenue Rockford IL	2161 Northwestern Avenue, Waukegan, IL
East St. Louis	Peoria <b>(Opens May 23)</b>	Chicago Southside <b>(Opens May 16)</b>
8:00am – 4:00pm <i>while daily supplies last</i>	8:00am – 4:00pm <i>while daily supplies last</i>	8:00am – 4:00pm <i>while daily supplies last</i>
Jackie Joyner Kersee Ctr. Argonne Drive East St Louis, IL 62204	Peoria Civic Center Fulton Street Parking Lot Peoria IL	SMG Chatham 210 W 87th Street Chicago, IL
Champaign <b>(Opens May 19)</b>	Rolling Meadows <b>(Opens May 20)</b>	
8:00am – 4:00pm <i>while daily supplies last</i>	8:00am – 4:00pm <i>while daily supplies last</i>	
Market Place Shopping Ctr 2000 N. Neil Street Champaign, IL	Rolling Meadows HS 2901 Central Road Rolling Meadows, IL	

## Know Before You Go

This is a free service that can be obtained without a doctor's referral. While this is a free service, you will be asked to show 1) photo identification and 2) healthcare employee or first responder ID/badge, if applicable.

Patients utilizing drive-thru testing sites must be seated at a functioning window. Once you get in line at the CBTS, you will not be permitted to exit your car. For the safety of the testing personnel, drive-thru sites will not be able to accommodate walk-up individuals. Walk-up testing services are only available in Peoria and East St. Louis, at this time.

Due to the demand for this service, we anticipate there could be significant wait times associated with these drive-thru community-based testing sites. Please be patient. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, you are urged to call your doctor or emergency department to seek immediate care and instructions.

Dozens of additional commercial testing sites are also available throughout the state further adding to the state's testing capacity. For the most up-to-date list of these sites, visit <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/testing-sites>. There residents can also find information on eligibility for testing and contact information for each testing site.

For additional information related to COVID-19, please visit [www.dph.illinois.gov](http://www.dph.illinois.gov). You can also get your COVID-19 questions answered at any time of day by calling the COVID-19 hotline at 1-800-889-3931. You can also email you questions to [DPH.Sick@Illinois.gov](mailto:DPH.Sick@Illinois.gov).

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