

County Administrator's Office 51 South Main Street Janesville, Wisconsin 53545 Phone: 608/757-5510

Web Site: www.co.rock.wi.us

To: Local Media Outlets

**From:** Rock County Administrator's Office, and Departments including Public Health,

Human Services, Emergency Management, Aging and Disability Resource

Center of Rock County, and the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Date: December 16, 2020

**By:** Sgt. Kohler, EOC Command: 608-758-8403

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## UPDATE # 1: Rock County Continues COVID-19 Community Testing Site at Blackhawk Technical College's Central Campus

Individuals who are elderly, and/or adults who are physically/developmentally disabled and need assistance registering online for COVID testing, can call the ADRC at 608-741-3600 during business hours (Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.) and receive help registering for a test. The public can self- register on-site if necessary at

## register.covidconnect.wi.gov

Volunteers are needed to fill support functions at the testing site. Persons interesting in volunteering can register on-line:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D44A9AE2BA4F4C43-covid

We continue to closely monitor the impacts of COVID-19 and provide information to assist residents and businesses to respond to the emergency as it evolves. Stay up to date by visiting <a href="https://coronavirus-response-rockcountylio.hub.arcgis.com/">https://coronavirus-response-rockcountylio.hub.arcgis.com/</a>.

For additional information, please contact the Rock County Emergency Operations Center at 608-758-8440 or <a href="mailto:ic.iic@co.rock.wi.us">iic.jic@co.rock.wi.us</a>

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Free COVID-19 testing will be available weekly on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. each day at Blackhawk Technical College – Central Campus, located at 6004 South County Highway G, Janesville WI. The next day of testing is Wednesday, December 16 and the last day of testing is tentatively scheduled for March 10, 2021.

The National Guard has extended its deployment that was scheduled to end on December 10, 2020 to March 10, 2021.

Previously, Blackhawk Technical College was the community sponsor for the testing and working collaboratively, has transferred responsibility to Rock County, effective December 16, 2020.

Additionally, a new entrance to the site will be in effect. The new entrance will be using the US Highway 51 entrance to the campus. The prior entrance for the testing had been off Sunny Lane. The change reflects updated traffic usage for the testing.

## Testing is open to anyone age five and older, but especially encouraged for those experiencing symptoms. COVID-19 symptoms include:

Cough

Fatigue

Sudden Loss of Taste/Smell

Shortness of Breath

Sore Throat

Congestion or runny nose

Fever

Muscle Pain

Nausea or vomiting

Chills

Headache

Diarrhea

Pre-registration is strongly recommended but the public can register themselves on-site if necessary. Please pre-register at register.covidconnect.wi.gov.

This is a drive-thru testing site and anyone getting tested must stay in their vehicle. A nasal swab will be used to collect a sample by a uniformed member of the Wisconsin National Guard.

Approximately 650 tests will be administered per day. The testing site will close for the day once 650 tests have been given. The National Guard will not be testing on December 24 nor December 31 due to the holidays. The 1st day of testing in 2021 will be Wednesday, January 6.

Please note that these details are subject to change based on needs identified by the COVID-19 Response Team as response continues to evolve. Changes could include increases or decreases in the amount of testing.

A Spanish-language interpreter will be available for those who don't speak English.

Volunteers are still needed to fill support functions at the testing site and further information on how to register to volunteer will be forthcoming.

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