

JOINT STATEMENT OF BASTROP COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS and COMMUNITY PARTNERS

(Includes Bastrop County, City of Bastrop, City of Elgin, City of Smithville, Bastrop County School Districts, and Chambers of Commerce)

March 24, 2020

On Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 2:00 PM, Bastrop County will open a public-restricted specimen-collecting site. In order to have access to this site, you must have a written referral from a Medical Healthcare Provider.

Keep in mind that in order to get a written referral from a Medical Healthcare Provider, there is a screening process that the medical professional will follow before approving a test-site appointment.

1. I heard there is a testing site in Bastrop.
 - That is correct. However, this is not an open-access testing site. You must have a referral from a healthcare provider to be tested.
2. Why can't I drive up and get screened?
 - The CDC has stated that only those with symptoms may be tested. There are not enough test kits or personnel for those without symptoms to be tested.
 - This facility is closed to the general public. In order to be tested at this site, you must be referred by a Medical Healthcare Provider.
3. I'm sick. Do I need to get tested now?
 - If you feel sick or are experiencing symptoms, please call your Medical Healthcare Provider for a screening and possible appointment. A Medical Healthcare Provider will determine, upon evaluation, if you need to be tested for COVID-19. If you do not have a Medical Healthcare Provider, please call the Ascension COVID-19 Medical Hotline at 833-978-0649.
 - If you are experiencing life threatening symptoms, please call 911; or call ahead to an emergency room, in order for medical personnel to prepare for your arrival.
4. I notice that they are doing testing in my neighborhood. Is that safe thing to do?
 - No tests are actually being done at the Bastrop County site. Swabs are being collected, labelled, and sent to a lab in another county for testing. The Bastrop County COVID-19 site is for specimen collection only.