



## GENESEE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

### MEMO

**DATE:** May 12, 2020

**TO:** All Directors, Managers and Supervisors

**FROM:** Fred Peivandi, Managing Director & Donna Poplar, Human Resource Director

**RE:** Available volunteer COVID-19 testing

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During the April 17 press briefing, Governor Whitmer stated that "we want to get more people tested." Monday, April 20, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services ([MI-DHHS](#)) has opened COVID-19 testing to include essential workers, individuals still reporting to work in-person, and working face-to-face with members of the public.

GCRC is an essential employer and to better protect the health and safety of our employees during the COVID-19 pandemic, we have partnered with an approved COVID-19 testing medical provider ([Michigan.gov](#)). This provider can accommodate the essential worker testing expansion and is in agreement to test all GCRC employees that are interested in being tested and is eligible.

The medical provider is prepared to conduct both [viral tests](#) and [antibody tests](#). Viral tests, which check samples from the respiratory system. The test procedure will consist of swabbing the inside of the individual's nose. The medical provider stated that all tests are sent to a laboratory to be analyzed, results are generally available within 48 hours, confirming or denying if SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 is detected. Antibody tests check an individual's blood by looking for antibodies, which show if a person had a previous infection with the virus. Depending on when someone was infected and the timing of the test, the test may not find antibodies in someone with a current COVID-19 infection because it can take 1-3 weeks after infection to make antibodies.

MI-DHHS reported that expanding testing will help identify asymptomatic cases that may still be spreading the virus as they report to work. Health officials believe as many as 25% of people with COVID-19 might not show symptoms ([CDC Director](#)).

Although testing expansion is in place, testing is voluntary, and appointments are required. GCRC Human Resource Department will coordinate with the approved testing medical provider to ensure testing is completed in an efficient and timely manner. Due to the State of Emergency, GCRC employees will not incur any out of pocket costs related to approved COVID-19 testing.

Please distribute this notice to your employees along with a copy of the COVID-19 testing survey and the FAQ. Please direct all questions regarding this process to Monica Pearson, HR Admin, ext. 251.

Thank you.