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STATE COVID-19 TEMPORARY TESTING SITE OPENS AT ORANGE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 24, 2020

**9 a.m. – until 250 tests are conducted daily, starting Wednesday, March 25, 2020
Orange County Convention Center – North Concourse Parking Lot
9400 Universal Blvd. Orlando, FL 32819**

(Orlando, FLA) – A drive-thru, community-based Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing site will open at 9 a.m. Wednesday, March 25 at the Orange County Convention Center for clients that meet select criteria.

Testing will be available **only for individuals who are 65 years of age or older who have COVID-19 symptoms and first responders and healthcare workers.** Those 65 and older MUST have an on-site temperature of 99.6 degrees or higher and respiratory symptoms and bring an ID to be tested. First responders (firefighters, law enforcement/corrections and medical staff with a valid agency ID) do not have to have symptoms to be tested. The test site is drive-thru only and will be limited to 250 tests per day. Plan accordingly, be patient and be prepared to wait. You will not be permitted to exit your vehicle and there are no restrooms. No bicycles or mopeds will be allowed.

Clients will be pre-screened; then civilian nurses will conduct additional screening to determine eligibility for testing. Those who meet the criteria will then be directed to the testing area. National Guard medics will be administering specimen collection, which involves swabbing the nasal cavity, and packaging. Those tested will be given instructions on how to receive their results.

The testing site is being operated in collaboration with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Florida Department of Health, Florida Division of Emergency Management, Florida National Guard, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, Florida Department of Transportation, Orange County Government, Orange County Convention Center, Orange County Sheriff's Office, and Orange County Fire Rescue Department.



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