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**Sent:** 1/21/2022 1:41:25 PM  
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**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Fwd: COVID-19 Rapid Tests Orders

Emily Ball  
Homeless Services System Performance Lead  
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----- Forwarded message -----  
From: **Walsh, Erika F** <[Erika.Walsh@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Erika.Walsh@dhhs.nc.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Jan 21, 2022 at 1:03 PM  
Subject: COVID-19 Rapid Tests Orders  
To: Parker, Mellin <[mellinp@cityofws.org](mailto:mellinp@cityofws.org)>, Tim West <[timw@cityofws.org](mailto:timw@cityofws.org)>, [bhusky@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:bhusky@ashevillenc.gov) <[bhusky@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:bhusky@ashevillenc.gov)>, Davis, Colin <[Colin.Davis@durhamnc.gov](mailto:Colin.Davis@durhamnc.gov)>, Schmiedler, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Schmiedler@durhamnc.gov](mailto:Lloyd.Schmiedler@durhamnc.gov)>, Hoberman, Hanaleah <[Hanaleah.Hoberman@durhamnc.gov](mailto:Hanaleah.Hoberman@durhamnc.gov)>, [bos@ncceh.org](mailto:bos@ncceh.org) <[bos@ncceh.org](mailto:bos@ncceh.org)>, [brian@partnersendinghomelessness.org](mailto:brian@partnersendinghomelessness.org) <[brian@partnersendinghomelessness.org](mailto:brian@partnersendinghomelessness.org)>, Lowry, Stacy <[Stacy.Lowry@mecklenburgcountync.gov](mailto:Stacy.Lowry@mecklenburgcountync.gov)>, [peter.safir@mecklenburgcountync.gov](mailto:peter.safir@mecklenburgcountync.gov) <[peter.safir@mecklenburgcountync.gov](mailto:peter.safir@mecklenburgcountync.gov)>, Nixon, Erin <[Erin.Nixon@mecklenburgcountync.gov](mailto:Erin.Nixon@mecklenburgcountync.gov)>, Steffi Travis <[stravis@kintegra.org](mailto:stravis@kintegra.org)>, dtaylor <[dtaylor@co.cumberland.nc.us](mailto:dtaylor@co.cumberland.nc.us)>, Corey Root <[croot@orangecountync.gov](mailto:croot@orangecountync.gov)>, [director@hosphouse.org](mailto:director@hosphouse.org) <[director@hosphouse.org](mailto:director@hosphouse.org)>, Kim Crawford <[execdir@endhomelessnesswake.org](mailto:execdir@endhomelessnesswake.org)>, SVC\_DHHS.ncesg <[ncesg@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:ncesg@dhhs.nc.gov)>, Lewis, Branden M <[Branden.Lewis@mecklenburgcountync.gov](mailto:Branden.Lewis@mecklenburgcountync.gov)>, Emily Ball <[eball@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:eball@ashevillenc.gov)>, [jherring@capefearcog.org](mailto:jherring@capefearcog.org) <[jherring@capefearcog.org](mailto:jherring@capefearcog.org)>, Rachel Waltz <[rwaltz@orangecountync.gov](mailto:rwaltz@orangecountync.gov)>

Please read and send out to all homeless serving organizations in your Region. Please notice the quick deadline to be included in next week's shipment of tests.

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**COVID-19 Rapid Tests Available**

As you know, we have seen a record surge in testing demand over the last several weeks that has strained testing supply nationally and across the State. NC DHHS is working to distribute and secure additional tests from manufacturers to help with the demand. Additional COVID-19 Rapid At-Home Antigen Tests are available for homeless service organizations at no cost.

Please requests tests via: <https://surveymax.dhhs.state.nc.us/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=84M8m6MM>

**Testing Orders Timeline**

Please submit orders for the week by **10am on Monday**. At 10:00 am Monday, the survey will close and survey respondents will receive an email response from NC DHHS by EOD Tuesday. The email response will provide the outcome of your request and shipping timeframe. For any high priority orders that are not fulfilled, your order will be flagged for the following week's distribution.

**Please order 2 weeks of tests at a time.** You can submit a new order every week, as needed, using the same link. Orders submitted after Monday at 10:00 am will not be fulfilled until the following week.

**Survey Form Instructions**

1. Please click on the green button that says, "Click Here to Order At-Home Antigen Tests".  
  
**DO NOT** click on the blue button or the next button. This will take you to the wrong order form.
2. For questions Please identify your organization type, please select "Homeless Service Organization." If that is not listed at the time of completing the survey, select "Other" and type in "Homeless Service Organization."
3. One second page, please list the estimated number of tests needed for ~2 weeks. You can order additional tests each week, as needed. Ordering for 2 weeks allows you to have additional tests on hand in case. Orders for more than a 2-week supply cannot be accommodated at this time.

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Please direct any questions to [Erika.Walsh@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Erika.Walsh@dhhs.nc.gov). We appreciate your patience and thank you for supporting testing across the state!

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**N95 Masks Available (update first send out last week)**

In addition to vaccines and boosters, well-fitting, multi-layer masks are another important layer of protection against the spread of the virus. If possible, wear a surgical or procedure mask, a KN95, or an N95 mask. [NCDHHS is making adult N95 masks available for staff and residents in homeless service organizations.](#)

NCDHHS is delivering N95 masks to all local DSS offices across the state. The local DSSs have been instructed to help distribute N95 masks to their local homeless service organizations. Please reach out to your contacts at the local DSS to request masks for your staff and residents. If you do not have a local DSS contact, please find contact information here: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-services/local-dss-directory>

**FAQ**

- Q: If I submitted an order for N95 masks to NCDHHS using the online form, can I still pick up get masks from my local DSS?**  
  
A: Yes. Please expect a delay in all orders submitted to the online form. Homeless service organizations that need a supply of N95 masks now should pick these up from your local DSS.
- Q: How many N95 masks can I ask for from my county DSS?**  
  
A: Provide your local DSS with an estimate for what you will need for about the next 2 months. DSS will work with your organization based on their supply.
- Q: How many N95 masks does my organization need?**  
  
A: N95 masks should be provided to staff and clients. Please review the CDC guidance on N95 masks and how to reuse them. Guidance can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/decontamination-reuse-respirators.html>
- Q: When will N95 masks be available to pick up from my county DSS?**  
  
A: All local DSS Agencies have already received their supply of N95 masks. Homeless service organizations should reach out to their local DSS to make a plan for receiving these masks.

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