

Starting November 5, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. the Federal Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) is teaming up with NM State officials to provide COVID-19 testing focused in the southeastern and southern part of the state in counties with positivity rates of ten percent or higher. These tests will be self-administered tests with medical supervision by HHSD and the New Mexico National Guard. The testing location will be at Greyhound Stadium in the west (home side) parking lot. The intent is to test anyone who wants a test, whether they are symptomatic or not, with a goal of at least 825 tests administered.

In order for Roosevelt County to turn green and allow schools to open, the county's test positivity rate must be below 5% and the average daily new cases must be under 8 per hundred thousand. Although the average new cases in the county is difficult to control, residents can help lower the positivity rate by being tested for COVID-19. The more people who test negative compared to the number of tests given drives down the positivity rate. Basically, right now most people in Roosevelt County who are being tested are doing so because they are ill. This, of course, means that the positivity rate is going to be higher. Testing now could be a good thing on two fronts. It could be good for your health to either catch it early or know whether you are asymptomatic and spreading the disease and it could drive the positivity rate down below the 5% threshold.

Getting kids back to school must become a priority. Under the current Health Order, there is no other way than bringing down the test positivity rate and new positive case rate in the county. Please consider registering for and taking the self-administered tests at Greyhound Stadium. The testing begins on 11/5/2020 at 3:00 p.m. and will run each day at the same time until 825 tests have been administered. This test is much less invasive than the current testing at the Department of Health or other medical locations. It is free and might help prevent further outbreaks and bring the rates down. Please click on the links below. One is a link to register for the testing and the other has a short video that shows how the self-administered tests are completed.

Link for test registration:

[https://www.doineedacovid19test.com/Portales\\_NM\\_2359.html](https://www.doineedacovid19test.com/Portales_NM_2359.html)

Link to self-administration video: (scroll to bottom of the linked page for the video)

<https://www.doineedacovid19test.com/>

Link to written instructions for the self-administered test:

<https://www.doineedacovid19test.com/Covid19SwabTest7-20-20.pdf>