BOSTON TESTING PLEDGE

Getting Tested is *Fast*, *Easy*, and *Safe*.
#GetTheTestBoston

ABOUT THE PLEDGE:

Boston and our country are facing an increase in COVID-19 positive rates, the likes of which we haven't seen since the spring. As we head into the months ahead, it's critical we all come together to look out for one another and our community, and take steps to stop the spread of COVID-19.

A key part of stopping the spread is testing. While earlier this year tests were hard to come by, Boston has expanded access to testing, and we are now encouraging <u>all</u> residents to get tested -- and especially those who are going outside their home for work or other reasons. But there's a problem: not enough people are taking advantage of our resources and getting tested. Residents with no symptoms can still be infected with COVID-19 and transmit the virus, according to the CDC. **We need more residents to get tested, and those that are interacting with others in any setting should consider getting tested on a regular basis**. For that reason, we are inviting all Boston employers to take a pledge in support of increasing testing access for their employees.

ABOUT THE CITY OF BOSTON'S COMMITMENT:

The City of Boston is committed to expanding access to testing. We will be offering benefit eligible City employees one paid hour every 14 days to get tested during their normal work hours. Employees will receive regular compensation for their time spent testing, and will not be required to utilize their sick or personal time for one hour of testing.

JOIN US:

We encourage businesses and employers throughout Boston to join us, by making sure their employees know when to get tested, how to get tested, and have access to the resources they need to take care of their own and our collective public health. Take the pledge to #GetTheTestBoston, and provide the resources your employees need to get tested, stop the spread of COVID-19, and avoid a setback in our reopening process. We also encourage individuals to take the pledge to demonstrate their commitment to stopping the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.

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HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

Companies:

- [Take the pledge!](#)
    - Encourage all your employees to consider getting tested, even if they don't have symptoms.
        - *Especially* anyone who may be experiencing COVID-like symptoms
        - *Especially* those at high risk for complications
        - *Especially* people in close contact with someone who is infected with COVID-19
        - *Especially* anyone who has traveled or been in large gatherings
    - Help your employees access resources for testing.
    - Examples include: sharing locations for COVID-19 testing (**[in Boston](#)**, **and [across the Commonwealth](#)**), and which ones are free, including for asymptomatic individuals, such as [Boston's mobile testing sites](#). Consider giving your employees paid time off to go get tested during work hours.

Individuals:

- [Take the pledge!](#)
    - Get tested for COVID-19, even if you don't have symptoms.
        - *Especially* anyone who may be experiencing COVID-like symptoms
        - *Especially* those at high risk for complications
        - *Especially* people in close contact with someone who is infected with COVID-19
        - *Especially* anyone who has traveled or been in large gatherings
    - Share locations for COVID-19 testing (**[in Boston](#)**, **and [across the Commonwealth](#)**), and which ones are free, including for asymptomatic individuals, such as [Boston's mobile testing sites](#).
    - Share **#GetTheTestBoston** on your social media, and encourage your network to get tested.
    - Practice public health guidance: wear a mask or face covering, wash your hands and clean your surfaces, keep 6 feet of distance and avoid large gatherings (especially parties).