

Vanguard Community,

I am pleased to share that the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) has provided ASU-Beebe the opportunity to facilitate on-site COVID-19 testing on our campuses. Free COVID-19 testing will be made available to all students, faculty, and staff from all ASUB campus locations beginning Thursday, April 1, 2021 until May 6, 2021 at four locations:

- Beebe Campus – Student Life office second floor, Student Center (walk-up)
- Beebe Campus – Human Resource office (walk-up)
- Heber Springs Campus –Administration suite (walk-up)
- Searcy Campus – by appointment by contacting 501-207-6242

Individuals who recently traveled for Spring Break and those who are scheduled to participate in ASUB's student vaccination clinic on Friday, April 2, 2021, are strongly recommended to be tested on Thursday, April 1, 2021. As you know, it is possible to be COVID-19 positive, have no symptoms, and still be sharing the virus and infecting others. Routine testing is a way to identify positive COVID-19 cases without symptoms so those individuals can isolate to curtail the spread of the virus. **Those who are currently positive with Covid-19 will not be eligible for vaccination until they have recovered from their illness.** These individuals should consult their healthcare provider for more direction on when to be vaccinated.

The tests will be self-administered with a product that is a less invasive swab process than the traditional rapid results tests that many health care providers have used. A trained ASUB non-clinical testing facilitator will provide you with a sealed nasal swab and instruct you to gently swab the inside of both your nostrils, not your nasal cavity. You will place the swab into the testing card as instructed. You will wait with your test for 15 minutes to view results.

Individuals with negative test results will be released to return to normal functions. Those with positive results will be directed to complete our COVID-19 Self-Reporting Form found on the Coronavirus Information page of our website, linked here: <http://www.asub.edu/coronavirus-information/index.aspx>, immediately return home, and wait for next step instructions from a contact tracer.

We anticipate that you will have some questions. Please find a list of Frequently Asked Questions along with their answers for your information below. I hope you will share this information with our students and encourage them to participate.

Thank you for your cooperation with all our *#VanGUARDYourHealth and Protect Others* initiatives. Because of your diligence, we continue to mitigate the spread of the virus at our campuses.

Thank you,



Jennifer L. Methvin, Ph.D. | Chancellor

ASU-Beebe Covid-19 On-Site Testing Services Frequently Asked Questions

Are individuals required to be test?

No. However, ASU-Beebe's residence hall students/staff, cohort program students/ faculty, and individuals who return from traveling to highly populated places are strongly recommended to test.

Who can be tested?

All students, faculty, or staff members from any of our campuses (Beebe, Searcy, Heber Springs, LRAFB, and online) are encouraged to take advantage of this convenient, free testing service.

Why are we testing people who have no symptoms and have not been exposed?

It is possible for someone to be positive with COVID-19, have no symptoms, and still share the virus and infect others. For this reason, wearing masks and staying at least 6 feet from others is the primary way to prevent the spread of the virus. However, routine testing is also a way to identify positive COVID-19 cases who are asymptomatic so those cases can isolate to curtail the spread of the virus.

What will this cost?

The testing is free. The Arkansas Department of Health has provided ASU-Beebe the rapid testing units. Neither you nor your insurance will be billed.

How long will the results take?

The actual test is self-administered and will only take a few seconds. After swabbing yourself, you are required to sit with your test unit for 15 minutes until results are confirmed.

How will the test work? Is this going to hurt?

The tests will be self-administered with a product that is less invasive swab process than the rapid results tests that many health care providers have used. A trained ASUB non-clinical testing facilitator will provide you with a sealed nasal swab and instruct you to gently swab the inside of both your nostrils, not your nasal cavity. You will place the swab into the testing card as instructed. You will wait with your test for 15 minutes to view results.

Will I have to quarantine after being tested?

No quarantine period is required of those who are exhibiting no symptoms of COVID-19, have not been exposed to a positive case, and test negative.

What happens if I test positive?

Individuals with positive results will be directed to complete our COVID-19 Self-Reporting Form found on the Coronavirus Information page of our website, linked here: <http://www.asub.edu/coronavirus-information/index.aspx>, immediately return home, and wait for next step instructions for a contact tracer from NYIT at A-STATE. Also, notify your instructors, who will work with you to deliver course content through alternative methods during your isolation period.

What if I live in a residence hall on the Beebe campus?

If you are positive for COVID-19 and live on campus, Housing Staff will work with you to provide isolation space within the residence hall and to deliver your meals, etc. during your isolation period.

Residents should be aware that if they are positive for COVID-19, they will be instructed to isolate where they are at the time of notification. The college encourages residents to isolate on campus. This helps limit the exposure of the virus and potentially exposure of your family to COVID-19.

Why are the test not administered by health professional? The ADH provided ASU-Beebe clear instructions on the requirements for administration of the test. A health professional is not required. Also, please be reminded that rapid tests are not the most reliable testing unit available, even if administered by a health professional. If an individual is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or has been exposed to a positive case, they will be directed to also complete a more reliable PCR test.

I thought rapid tests are not reliable? Why are we using rapid tests? Can I trust the results?

The ADH provided ASU-Beebe these testing units at no cost. If an individual is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or has been exposed to a positive case, they will be directed to also complete a more reliable PCR test.

Can I get vaccinated against COVID-19 while I am currently sick with COVID-19?

No. People with COVID-19 who have symptoms should wait to be vaccinated after they have recovered from their illness. These persons should consult their healthcare provider for further direction.