



NEWS RELEASE

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DCA Launches Campaign to Help With COVID-19 Testing

Director Calls on Healthcare Professionals to Help

SACRAMENTO – Following the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) [announcement](#) on new plans for COVID-19 testing, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) will launch a new campaign to encourage healthcare licensees to perform COVID-19 tests in their offices, or laboratories when able to, rather than referring patients to the state testing sites. This will allow state testing sites to focus on those people who are harder to reach and at higher risk of contracting COVID-19.

"Many of California's doctors, nurses, physician assistants and pharmacists have been on the front lines treating patients, caring for families and slowing the spread of COVID-19," said Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency Secretary Lourdes Castro Ramírez. "I know that they will continue to play a key role in the success of this updated testing guidance."

DCA's outreach campaign will include ensuring licensees have the [updated testing guidance](#) from CDPH. The guidance outlines different tiers to help determine who should be tested given the current context of the COVID-19 pandemic in California.

"Testing for COVID-19 to help with identifying the safest way to return to work is vital for our state," said Kimberly Kirchmeyer, Director of DCA. "We are happy to do our part to meet the moment."

The Department of Consumer Affairs is a consumer protection department under the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency and has been working closely with other state departments and stakeholders to respond to and protect all Californians during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS: *The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) promotes and protects the interests of California consumers while ensuring a competent and fair marketplace. DCA helps consumers learn how to protect themselves from unscrupulous and unqualified individuals. The department also protects professionals (licensees) from unfair competition by unlicensed practitioners. Consumers can file complaints against licensees by contacting DCA at (800) 952-5210. Consumers can also file a complaint online at dca.ca.gov.*