



March 20, 2020

Media Contact: Tyler Greer
205-934-2041 or tgreer@uab.edu

First coronavirus appointment-only testing site to open downtown Monday

- Beginning Sunday, March 22, at noon, those who have COVID-19 symptoms can call **205-975-1881** for an appointment screening. Starting Monday, March 23, hours to call for an appointment will be 7 a.m.-11 p.m., seven days a week.
- Appointments for the Downtown COVID-19 Testing Site will be scheduled between 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. seven days a week.
- The site will be located at the corner of University Boulevard and 22nd Avenue South.
- *Read this and more at www.uab.edu/news*

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – Birmingham-area hospitals and the [Jefferson County Department of Health](#) announced today their first **appointment-only** community coronavirus testing site — the Downtown COVID-19 Testing Site, which will begin seeing patients by appointment Monday at 9 a.m. The site is sponsored by [UAB Medicine](#) and the JCDH.

Beginning at noon Sunday, those who have symptoms of COVID-19 — cough, fever or shortness of breath — or believe they may have had contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 can call **205-975-1881** and be screened by a medical provider. The provider will then schedule an appointment time for testing at the downtown site if the caller has a positive screen for COVID-19 symptoms. The testing site will be located at the corner of University Boulevard and 22nd Avenue South.

Beginning Monday, March 23, those who believe they need a test can call **205-975-1881** between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. to schedule appointments at the Downtown Testing Site. Appointments will be scheduled from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. seven days a week. Those who are given appointments will be asked to **arrive no more than 15 minutes before their scheduled appointment time** and to follow the detailed instructions located on-site.

“We are working hard as a community to bring more testing sites online as more laboratories, [including UAB’s testing lab](#), are able to offer the COVID-19 test,” said Mark Wilson, CEO of

the Jefferson County Health Department. “We appreciate the public’s patience as we work to make this and other sites operational.”

The on-site instructions for the Downtown Testing Site include:

- You must have an appointment to be tested.
- You must have a cell phone to communicate with staff as the testing site.
- Tune your radio to 90.7 FM for important testing instructions.
- Do not roll down your window until instructed to do so.
- Stay inside your vehicle.

Testing results from the Downtown Site should be available in 3-4 days. Anyone who is given an appointment to be tested should remain self-quarantined until they receive their results and maintain social distancing even if result of the test is negative.

The Jefferson County Department of Health [announced Thursday that all gatherings of 10 persons or more](#), or gatherings of any size that cannot maintain a consistent 6-foot distance between persons, are prohibited until further notice.

The Jefferson County Department of Health is identifying other key locations in the county to potentially add additional sampling sites with local hospitals, laboratories and medical professionals in the next days and, possibly, weeks.

About UAB Medicine

[UAB Medicine](#) comprises the [School of Medicine](#) and the \$4.3 billion UAB Health System that includes all of the [University of Alabama at Birmingham](#)’s patient-care activities and 2,300 licensed beds in six hospitals, one of which is [UAB Hospital](#) — the third-largest public hospital in the United States, winner of the Women’s Choice award, and one of U.S. News & World Report’s Best Hospitals. UAB is the state of Alabama’s largest single employer and an internationally renowned research university and academic health center; its professional schools and specialty patient-care programs are consistently ranked among the nation’s top 50. UAB is the largest academic medical center in Alabama and one of the top four largest academic medical centers in the United States. UAB’s is advancing innovative discoveries for better health as a two-time recipient of the prestigious [Center for Translational Science Award](#). Find more information at www.uab.edu and www.uabmedicine.org.

About JCDH

The Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) was established in 1917. JCDH serves as the primary resource for public health issues in Jefferson County. JCDH has four health centers strategically located throughout the county. JCDH is responsible for providing health care, preventing the spread of diseases, and protecting against outbreaks. The Department of Health provides outpatient health care for Jefferson County’s underinsured and uninsured residents. JCDH health centers provide adult and child dental health, family planning, immunizations, maternity care, nutrition (WIC), case management, and Medicaid. JCDH Disease Control Specialty Clinics include: Tuberculosis, Sexually Transmitted Disease, and International Travel Clinics. Vital Records can be obtained for birth, death or marriage events that occurred in the

state of Alabama. Environmental Health Services is responsible for Air and Radiation, Food and Lodging, Community Assessment and Community Environmental Protection. For additional information please visit www.jcdh.org.

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/UAB.edu **TEXT:** www.uab.edu/news **TWEETS:** www.twitter.com/uabnews
VIDEO: www.youtube.com/uabnews

EDITOR'S NOTE: The **University of Alabama at Birmingham** is one of three doctoral research universities in the University of Alabama System. In your first reference to our institution, please use **University of Alabama at Birmingham** and **UAB** on subsequent references.