EMERGENCY ALERTS

Coronavirus Update

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Mass.gov

PRESS RELEASE

Baker-Polito Administration Announces Free COVID-19 Testing in 18 Communities is Extended through October

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

9/23/2020

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

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BOSTON — Today, the Baker-Polito Administration announced that the state's "Stop the Spread" initiative has extended free COVID-19 testing through October 31.

The testing is available in 18 high priority communities across the Commonwealth: Brockton, Chelsea, Everett, Fall River, Framingham, Holyoke, Lawrence, Lynn, Marlborough, Methuen, New Bedford, Randolph, Revere, Salem, Saugus, Springfield, Winthrop and Worcester.

The Stop the Spread initiative is a data-driven targeted effort to reduce the prevalence of COVID-19 in communities that are above the state average in total cases and positive test rates. All residents of these 18

communities, including asymptomatic individuals, are urged to get tested at one of these locations. These testing resources are open to all residents of the Commonwealth.

Residents can visit the initiative's website at **mass.gov/stopthespread** (/info-details/stop-the-spread)to find testing locations and additional information. Residents are reminded that if they test positive for COVID-19, please answer the call when they are contacted by the Community Tracing Collaborative or their local board of health. Also, any individual who needs a safe place to isolate can call (617) 367-5150 to access an isolation and recovery site at no cost.

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Executive Office of Health and Human Services

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The Executive Office of Health and Human Services is the largest secretariat in state government and is comprised of 12 agencies, in addition to 2 soldiers' homes and the MassHealth program. Our efforts are focused on the health, resilience, and independence of the one in four residents of the Commonwealth we serve. Our public health programs touch every community in the Commonwealth.

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Department of Public Health (/orgs/department-of-public-health)

DPH promotes the health and well-being of all residents by ensuring access to high-quality public health and healthcare services, and by focusing on prevention, wellness, and health equity in all people.

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