



Public Health Administration

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Chico Optum Serve COVID-19 Testing Site to Close

BUTTE COUNTY, Calif. – In conjunction with the closure of all state funded COVID-19 Optum Serve testing sites throughout California, the Chico Optum Serve site, located on the Chico State campus, will permanently close at 12 p.m. on February 24, 2023. As COVID-19 activity is decreasing across the state, the phase out comes after the State recently announced a plan to end the COVID-19 public health emergency declaration on February 28, 2023.

Optum Serve originally opened in May 2020 at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds in Chico. In February 2020, the site relocated to 900 Mangrove Avenue, adding a second location in March 2020 at Chico State's Whitney Hall. Optum Serve testing sites have been an important part of the state's COVID-19 testing strategy and response. Moving forward, the State's [SMARTER Plan](#) will ensure operational preparedness to support communities and respond to future outbreaks.

Residents in need of over-the-counter (OTC) COVID-19 tests have several options:

- Visit your local pharmacy.
- Contact your health insurance provider. OTC tests are covered by most insurance companies.
- Visit the CDC's [COVID-19 Testing Locator](https://testinglocator.cdc.gov) website: (testinglocator.cdc.gov).
- Visit www.covid.gov/tests to order up to four OTC tests per residential household, while supplies last, or call 1-800-232-0233.
- Ask your healthcare provider about testing.

Free COVID-19 OTC Tests - Public Distribution Locations:

Butte County Public Health has distributed OTC COVID-19 tests to locations throughout Butte County. Over the next few months BCPH will continue to distribute approximately 40,000 additional tests to these locations. Free tests will be available while supplies last. Availability is subject to change. ***The public is asked not to call these locations with inquiries about tests or test inventory.***

Chico	
Butte County Library	1108 Sherman Avenue
Dept. of Employment and Social Services	765 East Avenue
Women, Infants and Children (WIC)	2080 E 20th Street
Oroville	
Butte County Library	1820 Mitchell Avenue
Dept. of Employment and Social Services	78 Table Mountain Blvd.
Hmong Cultural Center	1704 Oroville Dam Blvd.
Feather River Tribal Health	2145 5th Avenue

Orchard Hospital Medical Specialty Center	2990 Oroville Dam Blvd., E, Unit A
Gridley	
Butte County Library	299 Spruce Street
Gridley Hospital Medical Specialty Center	284 Spruce Street
Paradise	
Butte County Library	5922 Clark Road
Dept. of Employment and Social Services	7204 Skyway
Durham	
Butte County Library	2545 Durham-Dayton Hwy
Biggs	
Butte County Library	464A B Street

COVID-19 Treatments & Free Telehealth Appointments:

If you test positive for COVID-19, ask your healthcare provider about treatment options. Treatments work best when started right after symptoms begin.

For those who are uninsured or underinsured, or unable to connect with their healthcare provider, a free telehealth appointment to determine treatment options may be available. Visit sesamecare.com/covidca or call 1-833-686-5051 for eligibility. Through this program, healthcare providers may prescribe free COVID-19 treatment medications, if appropriate. Medications may be mailed or picked up at your local pharmacy.

For more information about COVID-19 testing in Butte County, visit: www.buttecounty.net/ph/COVID19/Testing

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