

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.ocfas.ca.gov



Gavin Newsom

May 6, 2020



As a participant in state assistance benefits, including cash aid, Cal Fresh and MediCal, and in accordance with The State of California Emergency Order Numbers 3.21.20-EO-N-35-20 and N-25-20, you are being informed that COVID-19 testing is declared mandatory for all members of your household receiving assistance.

You may receive the test free of charge any of the participating sites in Merced County, California. Please refer to the attached pamphlet for testing sites and information related to COVID-19 testing. Appointments are required for testing. You can register online https://www.lhi.care/covidtesting or by calling 1 (888) 634-1123. Tests will be performed Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Failure to obtain a test by June 1, 2020, will result in the temporary suspension of your benefits beginning July 1, 2020, and continue until such time that testing has been completed.

In addition, should you test positive for COVID-19, and in compliance with the State of California Welfare and Institutions Code, The Humans Services Agency of Merced County may deem it necessary to remove all children (under the age of 18) from your household who have tested negative, and place them in temporary foster care until such time that you have been determined to be recovered.

Please feel free to contact your case worker,	with any questions you have
regarding this notice.	

Sincerely,

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Mark Ghaly, MD, MPH