



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 11, 2020

Contact: Rep. David Bowen
(608) 266-7671

Rep. Bowen Statement on Milwaukee Free COVID-19 Testing Centers
“These Centers Mark a Turning Point in the Fight Against COVID-19”

MILWAUKEE - In response to the [recent news](#) that two free COVID-19 testing sites have begun operating in Milwaukee, State Rep. David Bowen (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement:

“I am incredibly pleased to see two new free COVID-19 testing sites open up on Milwaukee’s North and South sides. From the very beginning, we have been told that widespread, accessible testing is the key to getting our communities back on track safely and while preserving public health. Now, we’re finally starting to see that come to fruition. Back in March, when I was fighting against the virus myself, I was incredibly disappointed that the folks I had come into contact with were unable to get testing without already showing severe symptoms like my own. Thankfully we all recovered and beat the virus but it exposes the gaps in the system. These testing centers will expand access to people who fear they may have the coronavirus, and I hope that they mark a turning point in the fight against COVID-19 in our community.”

Although public health officials have long stated that widespread testing would be the key to slowing the spread of COVID-19, the slow response from the Trump Administration and the President’s unwillingness to invoke the Defense Production Act to increase the supply of testing materials has until now kept that goal out of reach.

“Testing sites like these and others opening up around the state give us the opportunity to get ahead of the spread of COVID-19 by getting confirmation of who has the virus and should go into quarantine. Information like that is a critical step in the process of safely reopening our communities, and it is my sincere hope that these kinds of testing centers put us in the best possible position to fully fight back against this awful pandemic!”

Milwaukee’s two new COVID-19 testing sites are open daily from 8am to 8pm at UMOS at 2701 S. Chase Ave. and Midtown Center at 5760 W. Capitol Drive. COVID-19 testing at these locations is free and does not require an appointment, and the sites have the capacity to test up to 500 individuals per day.
