

**From:** [Office of the President](#)  
**To:** ["students@listserv.etsu.edu"](mailto:students@listserv.etsu.edu)  
**Subject:** COVID-19 Testing Initiative  
**Date:** Friday, September 4, 2020 11:01:00 AM  
**Importance:** High

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East Tennessee State University  
Office of the President

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Dear ETSU Students,

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, our first priority has been clear: ensuring the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff. One way we can accomplish this goal is to provide access to testing. In upcoming days, you will receive an email inviting you to be part of a new COVID-19 testing initiative at ETSU for students, faculty and staff. Led by our COVID-19 Medical Response Team, this health campaign invites members of our campus community to opt-in to be included in a pool to be randomly tested throughout fall semester. To opt-in individuals will be sent a consent form that includes more detailed information about this campaign and incentives for participating. This consent form must be completed and returned if you wish to participate. Each week, a group of names will be randomly drawn. Those selected will schedule an appointment for testing by calling the University Health Center at 423-439-4225 or going through the [patient portal](#).

Watch your email closely during the next few days for a message asking you if you want to opt-in. The first 100 students who opt-in will be included in a random drawing. The first name selected will receive \$100. Each week thereafter, two names will be drawn from the pool of individuals who opt-in and each will receive \$50. This drawing will take place each week for the remainder of the semester. At the end of the semester, two additional names will be drawn for a \$250 prize. Even if you are not selected to be tested, your name will remain in the drawing. Any prize winning will be applied to the student's ID Card/ID Buc\$.

This testing initiative will provide ETSU with knowledge about the prevalence of COVID-19 in our community and will help the COVID-19 Medical Response Team advise university administration on campus operations. Our hope is this campaign will also allow health officials to identify early cases and intervene to minimize the potential of an outbreak. If you are selected to be tested and present with no symptoms, you will not be required to self-isolate while waiting for your results, which could take 24-48 hours or longer to receive. We encourage you to read the full informed consent document to find out more about how to participate.

Please note that any student, faculty or staff member who wants to be tested can do so at any time by contacting ETSU University Health Services. Thank you for all you have done to protect your own health as well as the health and safety of others.

Sincerely,

Brian Noland  
President

Shivam Patel  
President, Student Government Association