



August 14, 2020

For immediate release

For more information, contact: Kim Engel, Director, 308-760-2415, kengel@pphd.org

**Relief funds for health care providers available, applications due by Friday, August 28
Panhandle total: 489, Active: 56, Recovered: 427, Deaths: 6**

The application process for the federal CARES program ends in two weeks, on Friday, August 28. These relief funds are specifically for health care providers and can include residential care, dentists, hospitals, and clinics. **In the busyness of the last few weeks, many providers may not realize that the deadline is fast-approaching.**

The application process is simple and not time-consuming. Providers can start their application at: hhs.gov/providerrelief. *Thousands of dollars may not be claimed if applications are not filed.*

Providers can direct their questions to DHHS.MLTCEXperience@Nebraska.gov.

Unified Command confirms eight more cases of COVID-19 in the Panhandle. The investigations are complete, all close contacts will be quarantined and actively monitored for symptoms by public health officials.

| Children 19 and under: 1 | | |
|--------------------------|-------|------------------|
| County | Cases | Exposure Type |
| Dawes | 1 | Community Spread |

| Adults: 7 | | |
|--------------|-------|------------------|
| County | Cases | Exposure Type |
| Box Butte | 1 | Community Spread |
| Dawes | 4 | Community Spread |
| Morrill | 1 | Community Spread |
| Scotts Bluff | 1 | Close Contact |

Unified Command confirms eight more recoveries in the Panhandle:

| Recovered: 8 | |
|--------------|-------|
| County | Total |
| Box Butte | 3 |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Cheyenne | 1 |
| Dawes | 1 |
| Scotts Bluff | 2 |
| Sheridan | 1 |

Testing information and access for the Panhandle area:

- You can sign up for the following free testing at [Testnebraska.com](https://www.testnebraska.com) or 402-207-9377:
 - Box Butte General Hospital in **Alliance**: Monday-Friday, 9-10am
 - Ambulance Bay on the east side of the emergency department, watch for the green arrows
 - **Chadron** Community Hospital: Mondays & Fridays, 7-9am
 - Collections are at 821 Morehead Street (Old Hospital ER Entrance next to Wilson Park)
 - **Gordon** Memorial Hospital: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2-4pm
 - Regional West Health Services in **Scottsbluff**: Monday-Friday, Noon-4pm
 - **Sidney** Regional Medical Center: Tuesdays & Thursday, 7-9am
- Community Action Health Center in **Gering**: Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays, 7-8am
 - Testing is free, sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/y7msahzq>
- Morrill County Community Hospital in **Bridgeport**: Daily
 - Call 308-262-1616 for testing, same day results, insurance will be billed
- Contact your local hospital or clinic for information on testing access.

March 2-August 14, 2020

- **Total Tests Conducted: 9,415**
- **Positive: 489**
- **Cumulative Positivity Rate: 5.1%**
- **Recovered: 427**
- **Active Cases: 56**
- **Deaths: 6**
- **Active Hospitalizations: 3**
- **Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 49**

Panhandle Public Health District, Region 21, 22, and 23 Emergency Management, and Scotts Bluff County Health Department are working as a unified command on this evolving situation. Essential updates will be regularly communicated to the public and community partners.

For the most up to date information from the CDC, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for all who live, learn, work, and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community. Visit our website www.pphd.org.