



Sept. 1, 2020

As we move forward with the fall semester as part of our Return to Campus phased-in plan, here are **Five Things You Should Know This Week**:

1. Statesboro DPH has reserved COVID testing hours just for GS students and employees

In Statesboro, the Department of Public Health will reserve testing hours specifically for Georgia Southern students, faculty and staff on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 11 a.m. until noon. These new reserved hours for free tests begin Wednesday, Sept. 2, at DPH's COVID test site at the Bulloch County Health Department, located at 1 West Altman Street in Statesboro. To take advantage of these reserved times, you can call 855-473-4374 or enter your information online in advance at covid19.dph.ga.gov. During the online registration process, once you reach the prompt that states: "You qualify to book an appointment online, Click next to register, DO NOT CLICK "NEXT" unless you want to register for testing at the site during the other times that are open (and not devoted to GS employees or students). Employees can then just show up at one of the days/time blocks that are set for Georgia Southern.

2. Encourage colleagues and students to use the CARES Center.

The [CARES Center \(for COVID-19 self-reporting\)](#) is an important university resource, providing university officials real-time indication about COVID-19's impact on our campuses. The CARES Center's ability to mitigate the spread of the virus on our campuses relies on the university community's willingness to be honest and forthcoming with information. In order to monitor public health, it is important that students and employees contact the CARES Center to report they:

- Have tested positive for COVID-19, or
- Are experiencing COVID-19-related symptoms, or
- Were notified they are a close contact with a COVID-19 positive case.

There are several ways to reach the CARES Center:

- Use the MyGS mobile app
- Complete the CARES Center COVID-19 self-reporting form available through the MyGeorgiaSouthern portal under the tile titled "COVID-19 Information & Resources."
- Call 912-478-CARE (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
- Email covidsupport@georgiasouthern.edu

3. Face coverings are almost always required inside campus buildings.

All Georgia Southern faculty, staff, students, and visitors are required to wear an appropriate face covering while inside campus facilities/buildings because six feet social distancing may not always be possible. Face covering use will be in addition to and is not a substitute for social distancing. Face coverings are not required in one's own dorm room or suite, when alone in an enclosed office or study room, or in campus outdoor settings where social distancing requirements are met.

4. Take care of your mental wellbeing.

Mental health services are among the available options through KEPRO for Georgia Southern University. The University System of Georgia has partnered with KEPRO to provide employees and their family members with a comprehensive Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Full-time and part-time employees, family, and household members have access to the program. Services are free and confidential, within the bounds of the law. See <https://www.usg.edu/hr/>

[benefits/2020_benefits/eap](#), contact KEPRO at 1-844-243-4440 or go to www.eaphelplink.com and use the company code USGcares.

5. Training is available on the university COVID-19 resources webpage

As a reminder, the university's COVID-19 information and resources webpage has an abundance of resources available to help navigate through this pandemic. Two of the most useful tools are training modules -- one developed by HR for supervisors and one developed by Student Wellness & Health Promotion to help anyone learn more about COVID-19 and how to keep yourself and your campus community safe.