



Sept. 15, 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. The flu vaccine helps Eagles care for themselves and their community.

While we must continue to focus on mitigating the spread of COVID-19, [in Georgia](#), the flu season begins in early October and lasts as late as May.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), getting a flu vaccine is especially important during 2020-2021.

While getting a flu vaccine will not protect against COVID-19, there are many important benefits, such as:

- Flu vaccines have been shown to reduce the risk of flu illness, hospitalization and death.
- Getting a flu vaccine can also save healthcare resources for the care of patients with COVID-19.

[Click here to learn more about the benefits of flu vaccination](#). Look for more information soon about flu vaccination opportunities.

2. Eagles must continue to Do Right.

Last week's [report](#) of COVID-19 cases on campus shows that total confirmed positive and self-reported cases of COVID-19 at Georgia Southern University as a whole are trending down. While this is the direction we want to be headed, we must remain vigilant in doing right. It is more important than ever to continue following public health guidelines.

Remember, *Eagles Do Right* when we:

- Follow public health guidelines
- Spread our wings 6 feet apart
- Wash our hands
- Cover our beaks
- Respect our nest

3. Eagles Do Right when we encourage each other to contact the CARES Center when necessary.

The [CARES Center \(for COVID-19 self-reporting\)](#) continues to prove to be an important university resource that not only provides university officials real-time indication about COVID-19's impact on our campuses, but also initiates a support system for the student's benefit to assure their wellbeing and academic success. 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 are encouraged to 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

4. Test score requirements waived for Spring, Summer, Fall '21

ACT/SAT test score requirements for Spring, Summer and Fall 2021 admission have been waived at Georgia Southern University due to uncertainty about the scheduling of SAT/ACT testing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The University System of Georgia made the decision to waive requirements for all USG institutions after monitoring testing availability during the spring and summer, when multiple test date cancellations caused limited testing availability and negatively impacted students. This temporary adjustment will allow students to apply for Spring, Summer and Fall 2021 admission without submitting ACT or SAT scores. Students must still meet all other admission requirements and must meet adjusted minimum grade point average eligibility thresholds for admission to each USG sector. Students who have SAT/ACT scores may still submit them.

5. Eagles Do Right when we cover our beaks - the right way.

The CDC has provided robust information on how to select, wear and clean your mask. CDC recommends that you wear masks in public settings around people who don't live in your household and when you can't stay 6 feet away from others. Masks help stop the spread of COVID-19 to others. [Click here to learn more from the CDC](#).