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Five Things You Should Know This Week

University Communications and Marketing

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Nov. 2, 2020

As we continue with the fall semester in accordance with our Return to Campus plan, here are **Five Things You Should Know This Week**:

1. Free COVID testing remains available in Chatham and Bulloch counties.

The Georgia Department of Public Health continues to offer free COVID-19 testing in Chatham and Bulloch counties. In Chatham County, COVID-19 testing is offered at the Savannah Civic Center several days each week with no appointment required. [Testing is also offered each Wednesday by appointment](#) at various mobile testing sites around the region. In Bulloch County, testing is available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8-11 a.m., with 10:30-11 a.m. set aside specifically for Georgia Southern faculty, staff and students. Testing also is available on Saturdays from 8-11 a.m., but there is no specific time set aside for Georgia Southern. [Register for either location online](#) or call 855-473-4374. If you want a time within the 10:30 a.m.-11 a.m. window in Statesboro, do not book a specific appointment time when registering online.

2. The CDC has updated language for the definition of close contact.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has updated their language for who is considered a "close contact" of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. A close contact is now someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated. [Click here for more information from the CDC.](#)

3. Homecoming is this week!

Georgia Southern hosts a series of Homecoming activities throughout the week. Show us your True Blue spirit all next week by wearing Georgia Southern colors and your favorite GS branded gear. The celebration includes a variety of special events, reunions, social gatherings and even a virtual parade! The week is highlighted by a virtual parade on Friday and the Eagles Homecoming game Saturday against Troy at Paulson Stadium. Find out more about the Homecoming and how you can participate at <https://students.georgiasouthern.edu/homecoming/>.

4. COVID-19 still presents a threat.

Some parts of Georgia and elsewhere in the country are seeing major increases in COVID-19 cases. While the numbers of confirmed cases and self-reported cases of COVID-19 at Georgia Southern remain stable, we must continue to Do Right by limiting face-to-face gatherings, remaining socially distant, wearing masks, and washing our hands. As the flu season approaches, these efforts will continue to be important to maintain the health and safety of our communities. With fall and winter holidays approaching, the CDC has provided guidance to help protect individuals and their families, friends, and communities from COVID-19. [The site lists considerations and recommendations](#) for a variety of celebrations, including low-risk, medium-risk and high-risk behaviors, and a wealth of other information such coping with stress and traveling safely during a pandemic.

5. Complete open enrollment by Friday.

USG benefits are centered around you to help balance your health, work and financial well-being goals. Choose from an array of benefits and programs for 2021. Review your options and enroll by Nov. 6. Now is the time to start exploring and creating an experience centered on you.