

Georgia Southern University

Georgia Southern Commons

A Few Things You Should Know This Week

University Communications and Marketing

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Five Things You Should Know This Week

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March 1, 2021

In accordance with our Return to Campus plan, here are **Five Things You Should Know This Week**:

1. Please be aware of parking lot closures this week

Parking on Arts Drive and in the Science Center parking lot on the Armstrong campus in Savannah, and on Malecki Drive and behind Paulson Stadium on the Statesboro campus will close temporarily this week for two days at each campus.

The entire Science Center parking lot and all of Arts Drive parking on the **Armstrong campus** in Savannah **will be closed all day today (3/1) and tomorrow (3/2)**.

For the **Statesboro campus**, all parking lots at Paulson Stadium and on Malecki Drive **will be closed all day Thursday (3/4) and Friday (3/5)**, and bus routes that stop at Paulson Stadium will be redirected.

While these lots are closed in Statesboro, anyone without a parking permit may park at the RAC, lot 42 and lot 29 (formerly University Villas) **ONLY** during the days the stadium area is closed.

The two bus routes will be directed as follows:

- Blue route will stop at the College of Education, Freedom's Landing (temporary stop) and the RAC.
- Gold route will stop at the Russell Union/Dining Commons, Cambridge and Eagle Village.
- Temporary route will stop at the Russell Union/Dining Commons and the RAC

Thank you for your understanding during this temporary situation while these lots are being used to enact our vaccine distribution plan, in accordance with [GDPH Phase 1A+](#) criteria.

2. The latest information on vaccines

The Georgia Department of Public Health reports that beginning March 8, the following groups will also be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine:

- Educators and staff (Pre-K, K-12, DECAL-licensed or exempt childcare programs)
- Adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their caregivers
- Parents of children with complex medical conditions

Anyone who wants a COVID-19 vaccine should [visit their website often](#) as the participating vaccine site locations list will be updated frequently. Additional locations statewide will be added when providers are ready to safely administer vaccines, and as vaccine supply allows. Public health departments are scheduling vaccines by appointment only, as are most other providers. In Bulloch County, the Southeast Health District reports that they are scheduling COVID-19 vaccination appointments. Find out more at <https://www.sehdph.org/>. For up-to-date COVID-19 information in Chatham and Liberty counties, where the district reports that they continue to actively vaccinate, visit <https://covid19.gachd.org/>.

Georgia Southern has been designated as a provider of the vaccine in accordance with the phased approach established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Georgia Department of Public Health, currently [DPH criteria is for Phase 1A+](#). When more details and/or vaccines are available, information will be passed along as quickly as possible. We encourage members of our University community who qualify for a vaccine to take advantage of any opportunity to receive one. In support of our employees being vaccinated against COVID-19, we are asking supervisors to be as flexible as possible with employee work schedules to allow everyone the opportunity to receive both doses of the vaccine. Georgia Southern has established a vaccine website for more information at <https://www.georgiasouthern.edu/covid-19-information/vaccine/>.

3. Employee Engagement Survey opens today

All full-time, benefitted employees who were employed at Georgia Southern prior to December 1, 2020, should receive an email today from Studer Education asking them to participate in Georgia Southern's first Employee Engagement survey. If you don't see the email in your inbox, check the spam or other folders for the Engagement Survey link from Studer. This survey continues our efforts to build an engaged and inspiring work environment at Georgia Southern. Our goal is to foster an environment where every individual knows and owns their role and responsibility in achieving the strategic direction of Georgia Southern. To maintain absolute assurance in the confidentiality of the Employee Engagement survey, Studer Education will administer the survey, manage the data collection, and aggregate the data to provide results reports to leaders. We are using Studer Education as our partner because we simply want to make sure that all employees feel as secure as possible expressing their opinions and written comments. The survey will remain open through March 15. If you have any questions about the survey or the survey analysis and reporting process, please feel free to contact Julie Kunselman at Julie.Kunselman@StuderEducation.com or by phone at 850-516-4294.

4. Identifying caregivers of persons age 65 and older for COVID-19 vaccines

As Georgia Southern receives COVID-19 vaccines to be administered to faculty, staff and students who meet [GDPH Phase 1A+](#) criteria, one of the eligible groups within this population is caregivers of persons age 65 and older. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines caregivers as:

Caregivers provide care to people who need some degree of ongoing assistance with everyday tasks on a regular or daily basis. The recipients of care can live either in residential or institutional settings, range from children to older adults, and have chronic illnesses or disabling conditions.

If you feel you meet the CDC definition of a caregiver and would like to be notified when Georgia Southern has vaccines available to distribute, please click this link: <https://forms.gle/bv6G2GsEFpxZzVf9A>. You can also find the link in the COVID-19 tab within MyGS.

5. COVID-19 testing availability continues in our region

The Georgia Department of Public Health (GDPH) continues to offer COVID-19 testing to all Georgians who request it, whether they have symptoms or not. Mako Medical has contracted with the GDPH to provide testing services in our area to free up health department staff and resources to focus on COVID-19 vaccinations.

To register for Mako Medical COVID-19 testing in Bulloch and Chatham county locations, please visit <https://mako.exchange/splash/GAmakotesting/>.

The Southeast Health District will continue to offer free COVID-19 testing in other areas. To schedule an appointment at one of these COVID-19 testing sites, call 1-855-473-4374 or visit covid19.dph.ga.gov for all other public health testing locations.