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Five Things You Should Know This Week

University Communications and Marketing

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March 22, 2021

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

1. COVID vaccine being distributed in Statesboro Wednesday and in Savannah on March 30

A very small number of appointments remain for Wednesday's (3/24) vaccine distribution in the Paulson Stadium parking lot in Statesboro. Appointment slots will open this afternoon for another distribution site being scheduled for Tuesday, March 30 at the Armstrong Campus in Savannah. The vaccine is available for any Georgia Southern faculty, staff and student over 18 years old who [GDPH lists as currently eligible for the COVID vaccine in Georgia](#) AND who lives or works in Georgia. To make an appointment, go to the MyGS portal and click on "COVID-19 Vaccine Scheduling Form" under the heading of "COVID-19 Information and Resources."

To accommodate Georgia Southern's vaccine distribution plan on Wednesday, all parking lots at Paulson Stadium and on Malecki Drive will be closed all day and bus routes that stop at Paulson Stadium will be redirected. Setup will begin Tuesday (3/21), but parking and bus routes will not change until Wednesday.

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 three 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.
- Temp route will stop at the Russell Union/Dining Commons and the RAC.

As a reminder, Georgia Southern is a designated COVID-19 vaccine provider by the Georgia Department of Public Health (GDPH) and administers doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccines, as they are available, free of charge to populations within our faculty, staff and students who [GDPH lists as currently eligible for the COVID vaccine in Georgia](#). Additional distribution days are being planned on both campuses. Updates will be sent by email.

2. OneUSG Connect Payroll Upcoming Functionality Enhancements

Please be aware that OneUSG Connect Payroll system functionality enhancements are being scheduled and will impact all employees. The OneUSG Connect upgrade is scheduled to begin at 11:15 p.m. on Friday, April 9. and conclude at 7 a.m. on Sunday, April 11. Upon completion of the upgrade, the user experience will be enhanced to have a more modern look as well as the flexibility to process time and absence requests seamlessly on phones, tablets and desktop devices.

3. The latest information on vaccines

Georgia is now vaccinating adults 55 and older and **any** adult with certain medical conditions, as outlined at <https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-vaccine-eligibility>.

In Bulloch County, an online scheduling portal is now available for those eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine at <https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-vaccine> and selecting the blue box that states "Health Dept. Scheduling." For Chatham and Liberty counties, go to chdcovidvax.org to schedule an appointment. The online appointment scheduling system will allow for scheduling first dose appointments only, up to eight days in advance. If you do not see any available appointments, check back frequently.

Additionally, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) has opened up drive-through mass vaccination sites in Savannah and Waycross. Visit myvaccinegeorgia.com for more information.

The GEMA mass vaccination site in Savannah is no longer requiring appointments. The site is located at Gulfstream Aerospace at 2 Innovation Drive in Savannah, and is open Tues. – Sat., 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. The site is giving Pfizer vaccine, which is authorized for age 16 and older (anyone under 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian).

4. 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.

5. Bonus pay will start going out this week

The statewide plan to provide a one-time \$1,000 bonus to employees whose annual salary is less than \$80,000 will be enacted starting this week. The bonus will be paid to employees who are regular, full-time benefits-eligible employees who were active on February 15, 2021. Part-time employees and those whose standard schedule is under 30 hours per week are not eligible. The bonus payment will be paid on March 26 for bi-weekly paid employees and on March 30 for monthly paid employees. Please note payments will be subject to all applicable FICA Taxes, Federal Income Tax, and State Income Tax. Federal and state Income tax will be withheld at the employee's normal tax rate. The bonus funds do not count toward the overtime calculation for non-exempt employees for hours worked during the pay period in which it is paid, and is NOT eligible for retirement contribution.

6. Enrollment Services opens Statesboro Campus walk-in service center as second location

Enrollment Services, a one-of-a-kind office that provides support and advocates on behalf of students, has officially opened its Statesboro Campus walk-in service, making it the second walk-in service center available to students at the University.

Located on the first floor of the Rosenwald Building, the collaborative hub is the first stop for undergraduate and graduate students who may have questions regarding admissions, student records, student accounts, and student aid.

Enrollment Services opened the first walk-in service center and call center in September on the Armstrong Campus in Victor Hall. For more information, visit GeorgiaSouthern.edu/enrollmentservices.