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Five Things You Should Know This Week

University Communications and Marketing

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12-6-2021

## Five Things You Should Know This Week

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Dec. 6, 2021

### **1. Free COVID-19 testing available on campus**

Georgia Southern is offering free COVID-19 testing on-campus for faculty, staff and students. In partnership with Mako Medical, both the COVID-19 PCR test and rapid antigen test are available on the Statesboro and Armstrong campuses. Liberty Campus students and employees can take advantage of these test options at either the Armstrong or Statesboro campus.

Testing is provided Monday through Friday (9 a.m.- noon and 12:30 - 4 p.m.) at no cost to faculty, staff and students. No insurance is needed for COVID-19 testing. On the Armstrong Campus in Savannah, the testing site is located at the Armstrong Center. On the Statesboro Campus, the testing site is located at the Forest Drive Classroom Building.

Walk-up testing is available; however, we recommend pre-scheduling in advance to streamline the process. You can schedule by clicking on "COVID-19 Test Registration" in your MyGeorgiaSouthern portal. For more information, see our [online FAQ](#).

Additionally, testing in the health centers on both the Armstrong and Statesboro campuses remains available for students who have been evaluated by a campus health services medical provider. Off-campus COVID-19 testing options are also available at doctors' offices, local urgent care centers, local retail pharmacies or through the Georgia Department of Public Health -- click [here](#) to find a testing location.

### **2. Fall commencement ceremonies begin this week**

Fall commencement ceremonies begin this week with the Savannah graduation set to take place on Saturday at 3 p.m. at the Convention Center in Savannah. Graduates and guests driving to the Savannah Convention Center should be aware that parking is limited at the facility as construction is ongoing for an expansion project. One major lot next to the Convention Center is closed. Georgia Southern will have a shuttle running from an alternative parking lot on Hutchinson Island, but visitors should plan to carpool, plan for extra time, or consider [parking in downtown Savannah](#) and taking a [free ferry across the Savannah river](#) to the Convention Center. Staff and faculty attending the ceremony will need to follow directions on their parking pass to a separate parking

Ceremonies in Statesboro will be next week on Monday, December 13, and Tuesday Dec. 14, both at 2 p.m. in Paulson Stadium. Find out more details and watch the ceremonies live on our [commencement website](#).

### **3. CDC recommends a COVID-19 booster shot for everyone aged 18 and above**

Booster shots are recommended for every individual aged 18 years and older at least 2 months after a 1-dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson) or at least 6 months after a 2-dose vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna). You may choose which COVID-19 vaccine you receive as a booster shot.

Although vaccines remain effective at preventing severe disease, the CDC emphasizes everyone 18 years of age and older should receive a booster dose based on decreasing protection over time and the recent emergence of the Omicron variant.

### **4. Schedule a COVID-19 vaccination appointment through the MyGS portal**

We are now scheduling vaccine appointments directly through the Health Services Patient Portal for all Georgia Southern faculty, staff and students. On the Statesboro campus, appointments for all three COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson) are available 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. On the Armstrong Campus in Savannah, appointments for all three COVID-19 vaccines are available 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays.

To schedule a COVID-19 vaccine shot or booster dose, go to the MyGS portal and click on the "COVID-19 Vaccine Scheduling Form" under the "COVID-19 Information and Resources" tab. Once you are in the new patient portal, click on "Appts" to schedule your vaccination appointment.

### **5. Ad Astra to go live Wednesday, Dec. 8**

Ad Astra, which replaces 25Live as the University's space reservation platform, will now be available to users on Dec. 8. The platform was previously scheduled to be available on Dec. 6 for new reservation requests. For more information, visit <https://its.georgiasouthern.edu/reservation-event-scheduling/>.