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Five Things You Should Know This Week

University Communications and Marketing

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Dec. 14, 2021

As the semester winds down, this will be the final "Five Things" of 2021. We will pick up the practice again as students return in January.

1. CARES Center availability over the break

The Georgia Southern University CARES Center will continue to be available over the break – with reduced staffing – for answers to urgent* COVID-19 related questions; to self-report test results and symptoms; get help evaluating your situation; and receive support for your COVID-19 related academic, employment and on-campus notification needs.

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

**Urgent requests will receive a same-day response; routine requests will be answered upon our return to campus on January 4.*

2. Free COVID-19 testing available on campus

Georgia Southern continues to offer 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 testing 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. Testing will be available Friday, Dec. 24 from 9 a.m. to noon. Testing will not be available Dec. 27-Jan. 3 and will resume normal hours on Jan. 4. 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 Testing 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.

3. Employees save 25% at University Store and Tech Corner

Faculty and staff can save 25% off* at the University Store and Tech Corner through Dec. 22. This offer applies for in-person shopping only and is good at the Statesboro stores and at the Armstrong store in Savannah. Employees must show their Faculty/Staff Eagle Card to receive a discount.

**Some exclusions may apply (such as Apple products).*

4. CDC recommends a COVID-19 booster shot for everyone aged 18 and above

CDC recommends a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine for all persons aged 18 or older, at least 6 months after completion of a mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) primary series or at least 2 months after receipt of the single primary dose of the J&J vaccine. You may choose which COVID-19 vaccine you receive as a booster shot.

Adolescents aged 16-17 years of age may receive a single booster dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after completion of the primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks. *At this time, only the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is authorized and recommended for adolescents aged 16 and 17.*

5. 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, clinic on "Appts" to schedule your vaccination appointment.