

Georgia Southern University

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Five Things You Should Know This Week

University Communications and Marketing

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Jan. 10, 2022

As we welcome back students for the Spring 2022 semester, we will renew our practice of sending employees weekly emails with about 5 things you should know each week. While these emails are not exclusively related to the pandemic, they will include frequent reminders about the [public health precautions](#) and on-campus steps we can all take to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

1. Lots of info is available online related to our response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Since the pandemic started, Georgia Southern has been detailing [its response to the COVID-19 pandemic](#) with a prominent link from the home page. This page has links about vaccines, testing, the CARES Center, training, signage, an archive of campus messages and many other resources.

2. COVID-19 testing now available on campus

Georgia Southern has partnered with Mako Medical to offer both the COVID-19 PCR test and the COVID-19 rapid antigen test on the Statesboro and Armstrong campuses for GS faculty, staff and students.

Testing is provided Monday through Friday (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) at no cost. 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.

Appointments will not be scheduled. While walk-ups will be accepted, pre-registration is strongly encouraged. You can pre-register via the COVID-19 testing link on your MyGeorgiaSouthern portal. Once you have pre-registered, you can go to the COVID-19 testing site at your convenience; the system will not generate an appointment for you or send you a reminder email.

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. Students who desire an evaluation by a campus medical provider can schedule an appointment via their online health portal. For more information, see an online FAQ at <https://auxiliary.georgiasouthern.edu/healthservices/2021/08/31/covid-testing-information/>.

3. New tool now available for Inclusive Excellence on-demand education

Get Inclusive is an optional training platform that offers courses related to diversity, equity and Inclusive Excellence. Get Inclusive has replaced DiversityEDU as our campus-wide online diversity education tool. To access this platform, go to your MyGeorgiaSouthern portal and click the "Inclusive Excellence On-Demand Education" link found in the "Services" tile or the "Training" tile for faculty and staff. This will take you to your personalized Get Inclusive dashboard. Here you will find any courses available to students or faculty/staff. These courses provide on-demand access to diversity education and allows participants to engage at their own pace. Each course has defined goals and aims to inform and support the progression of Inclusive Excellence here at Georgia Southern.

If you have any questions about the platform or its content, please contact the Office of Inclusive Excellence by email at oiie@georgiasouthern.edu or by phone at 912-344-2669.

4. Vaccine shots and boosters are free on campus

Booster shots are available to anyone 12 years of age or older. An individual can receive a booster dose if it has been at least 2 months after the Johnson & Johnson vaccine or at least 5 months after the 2nd dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine. Please note the Pfizer vaccine is the only COVID-19 vaccine authorized for use in 12-17 year olds. 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.

5. Leave for COVID-19 Vaccinations still available

With the recent extension of the Governor's Executive Order through Jan. 26, USG employees can still use "Non-Closure Emergency Leave" for leave related to getting a COVID-19 vaccine and/or dealing with vaccine side effects.

Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine: Faculty and staff may take up to eight (8) hours of Non-Closure Emergency Leave for the purpose of receiving a vaccine. If receiving a two-dose vaccine, this is a total of up to 8 hours across both doses.

After receiving COVID-19 vaccine: Faculty and staff who experience vaccine side effects that prevent them from performing duties of employment may take up to sixteen (16) hours of Non-Closure Emergency Leave rather than using sick leave. If receiving a two-dose vaccine, this is a total of up to 16 hours across both doses.

Questions should be directed to hrservice@georgiasouthern.edu.