

Georgia Southern University

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Five Things You Should Know This Week

University Communications and Marketing

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March 21, 2022

1. Additional pay coming for eligible full time, benefited state employees

As communicated on Thursday, Gov. Brian Kemp has signed an amended budget for the current fiscal year (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022). The amended budget provides funding for additional pay for eligible state workers. University leadership is working closely with the University System of Georgia on implementation and disbursement of this increase.

HR will be preparing letters for each employee to explain exactly how this will impact them. Please be patient as information is finalized.

2. Updated USG COVID-19 guidance

The University System of Georgia (USG) continues to recognize COVID-19 vaccines and boosters offer safe, effective protection and urges all students, faculty, staff and visitors to get vaccinated and/or boosted either on campus or with a local provider.

As USG works closely with the Georgia Department of Public Health to prioritize the health and safety of campus communities, the system encourages individuals to wear masks based on their preference and assessment of personal risk.

3. \$1,000 scholarships coming for GS students to study in Ireland

The costs for undergraduate students at Georgia Southern's Wexford campus in Ireland this summer will be offset by a \$100,000 scholarship fund with awards of \$1,000 for each student accepted.

The donation makes these Wexford summer programs the most affordable multi-week programs Georgia Southern has ever been able to offer.

Students will be able to choose from education courses, a Wexford-Savannah honors inquiry and an interdisciplinary program open to all students on human migration with courses in geography, religious studies, public health and a CORE study abroad course.

Encourage your students to learn more by clicking [here](#) or by contacting the Office of Global Engagement.

Georgia Southern University-Wexford is a global hub for learning housed in a historic building constructed in 1812. The space now features state-of-the-art classrooms and student apartments. Georgia Southern is the first public university in the United States to open an outreach learning facility in Ireland.

4. Vaccine shots and boosters are available on campus

COVID-19 shots continue to be available on campus, and walk-ups can be accommodated. Boosters are available to anyone 12 years of age or older. Individuals 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 second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine. Shots are currently available from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on the Statesboro Campus, Monday through Friday, at Health Services and on the Armstrong Campus, Wednesday, at the Health Professions Academic Building. Appointments can be scheduled via the MyGS portal by clicking on the "COVID-19 Vaccine Scheduling Form" under the "COVID-19 Information and Resources" tab.

5. COVID-19 testing also still available on campus

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

Testing is provided Monday through Friday (9 a.m.-noon; 12:30-4 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/>.