COVID-19 Testing Reminder

Go Online
Visit gcu.studenthealthportal.com and register for an account by using your student ID and personal email address. You will then be able to schedule an appointment for a test.

Call the Health Clinic
Call 844-391-1949. The hotline number has been updated with improved telephone prompts and additional staffing has been brought in to assist with all calls.

COVID updates, off-campus diligence

As the fall semester continues to unfold at GCU, it is even more important for everyone to remain diligent about protecting themselves from the coronavirus, especially when they are off campus.

The safety measures that are in place on campus, whether in classrooms or at planned social gatherings, have been successful. But all of the evidence suggests that when students leave campus, the number of positive COVID cases increases. That has been evident in the last few days when there has been a mild increase in the number of positive cases that have been traced back to off-campus gatherings during the Halloween weekend.

The other areas where we are seeing positive cases are through activities such as friends gathering indoors without masks in common spaces or residence hall suites, watching TV together for prolonged periods or taking long trips in an enclosed vehicle.

It serves as an important reminder for everyone to remain on campus whenever possible, wash your hands frequently, avoid touching your face, and wear a face covering both indoors (other than your individual residence hall room) and outdoors (where 6 feet of physical distancing is not possible).

Updated COVID numbers

Currently, there are 133 active cases of COVID-19 connected to GCU's campus – which is less than 1% of the campus population. Those individuals are either at the GCU Hotel or in isolation at an off-campus residence. As a precaution, students who have been in close contact to positive cases are also being placed in quarantine at vacant Canyon Residence Hall.

Since Aug. 1, there have been a total of 433 positive COVID cases (415 students and 18 employees) connected to the GCU campus community.

We of course want to see active case numbers decrease, but they are still far less than what we are seeing at other universities, especially given the large on-campus student body population at GCU. No GCU students who have tested positive have suffered serious illness or required hospitalization.

Thanksgiving

Given the higher number of COVID cases that occur when students leave campus, we are again highly encouraging students – for the greater good -- to remain on campus during the four-day Thanksgiving break. There will be on-campus dining options and activities specific to the Thanksgiving holiday.

If students do travel during the break, we encourage them to take a COVID test at the GCU Health and Wellness Clinic upon their return. Please see the enclosed box on how to request a COVID test.

Testing and wellness procedures

The Health Clinic Hotline can be reached at 844-391-1949 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. (after-hours messaging is also available). Message prompts on the hotline have been updated and additional staffing has been added to assist with calls.

We also strongly encourage students to be tested for COVID through the Health Clinic rather than utilizing off-campus options. Off-campus tests typically have longer wait times for results, which leads to longer lag times for contact tracing. The GCU Health and Wellness Clinic utilizes rapid Antigen tests that can provide results within 15 minutes, allowing for faster contact tracing and, in turn, the ability to quickly place at-risk students in quarantine. If you do get a test off-campus, you must promptly notify the GCU Health Clinic at 844-391-1949.

We want to finish the semester on a strong note from both an academic standpoint and a health/safety standpoint, which will position us for a strong start to the spring semester. By following COVID protocols and working together with grace and compassion for one another, we're confident we can do that.