

As we are now a couple of weeks into the fall semester, we are starting to see an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases on campus similar to other universities with large on-campus student populations.

At the start of this week, there were 266 active cases of COVID-19 connected to the GCU campus community. Of those, 248 were students (about 1% of the student body) and 18 were employees. So far this week, that increase in cases has subsided significantly.

As a reminder, if students are feeling ill they should call the COVID hotline at 602-639-7300 and press option #3. A health care provider from the GCU Health and Wellness Clinic is available to see any students who are placed in isolation at the GCU Hotel or alternate isolation sites due to COVID-19.

Outside of normal business hours at the Health Clinic, a registered nurse from First Responders, Inc., is available onsite from 6-11 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday to assist students placed in isolation and check on their health status. Students who would like to request a visit from the RN during these outside hours can do so by calling the front desk of the hotel. For times when the Health and Wellness Clinic is closed and the RN is not onsite, students are advised to call the after-hours nurse triage and advice line at 877-602-7217.

If at any time there is an emergency situation, call 911.

We will continue to monitor the status of COVID-19 both on campus, in Maricopa County and at other universities as we work closely with local government and health authorities. We also continue to encourage students, faculty and staff to become vaccinated or, for those who are unvaccinated, to wear a face covering in settings in which physical distancing is not possible. The vast majority of positive COVID cases related to the more contagious Delta variant have been among unvaccinated individuals.

To schedule an appointment to receive the free FDA-approved Pfizer vaccine, simply contact the GCU Health and Wellness Clinic at 844-391-1949 or healthcenter@gcu.edu. Students who are vaccinated also are not required to quarantine if they come in close contact with an individual who has tested positive.

Please continue to follow healthy hygiene habits to avoid COVID-19, even if you are vaccinated. We are truly fortunate to be able to have a normal fall semester with in-person classes and activities without restrictions, but we need everyone's continued diligence and cooperation!