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A message from the special assistant to the chancellor for public health

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A Message From the Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Public Health

September 3, 2021

Dear students,

I hope you enjoy your long holiday weekend ahead and stay safe. South Carolina has one of the highest new case rates of COVID-19 in the United States, and we are so appreciative of all you do in and outside of class to keep yourselves, your family, and our campus safe.

Important COVID-19 information related to vaccine clinics, this weekend, and common questions:

Vax UP Pfizer On-Campus Clinic next week, Friday, Sept. 10:

- **If interested in attending, pre-register ASAP:** [Pfizer Vaccine Dose 1 & Dose 2 Clinic Sign Up](#)
- Upload your vaccine information if you are already vaccinated to [MyHealth](#)
- Find more information about vaccines: [Vax UP](#)

If you feel sick:

- Stay away from others (do NOT go to work or class, or attend parties, in-person church, or family gatherings). Wear your mask around your family and roommates, use a private bedroom and bathroom if possible, and clean surfaces in your residence.
- If you feel sick, get tested – Health Services and the downtown DHEC site is closed Monday for Labor Day. Find South Carolina COVID-19 testing locations by county and city here: [COVID-19 Testing Locations](#)
- Upload all test results, positive or negative, to [MyHealth](#)
- If you test positive, you may not come to campus until meeting DHEC criteria that it is safe to do so. Health Services will guide you and communicate to faculty when you may return to class.

If you have been in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19:


- If you were within 6 feet of that person for more than 15 minutes within 2 days of their symptoms or positive test, and are unvaccinated, you must quarantine, as you are at risk for developing COVID-19. You are restricted from campus, and may not remain in your room in residential housing.
- If you are vaccinated and exposed, wear a mask around others, test 3-5 days after exposure, and you are not restricted from campus in accordance with DHEC criteria.
- You must report exposure to Health Services. You may report new exposures to Health Services via a [MyHealth](#) message to the clinical team if it's outside business hours. Messages will be reviewed during weekday business hours, and should not be used for urgent medical needs.

- **It is critical that you read all email and text messages from Health Services or MyHealth.**

Please be aware, Health Services phone lines transfer to Spartanburg Regional Hospital outside of regular business hours, and they address urgent medical needs only.

If you need assistance with the non-medical aspects of COVID-19 and being a student (coursework, housing, etc.) please refer to [Spartans Care](#).

Wishing you a safe and healthy holiday weekend,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary D. Bucher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary D. Bucher, MS, APRN, FNP
Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Public Health

University of South Carolina Upstate
800 University Way | Spartanburg, SC 29303

***Up* is where we live.**