

From: [Office of the Chancellor](#)
Subject: Public health weekly updates
Date: Friday, February 5, 2021 2:04:21 PM



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

February 5, 2021

Dear Faculty and Staff,

Thank you to all who participated in the SC Strong Testing Clinic Monday. The results were initially projected to be available by today, but we have been notified that labs are still in process. No one on campus has received, or has access to, results at this time. I will send an additional update next week if results are not available within the next several business days.

Beginning Monday, February 8, COVID-19 vaccination eligibility will be open to South Carolinians age 65 and older as part of Phase 1a. There are national and state issues with demand exceeding supply. Some vaccine distribution centers have a waitlist process, and some do not. The supply changes on a weekly basis, and there is no certainty where appointments will become available, or when.

In navigating this system, I would suggest the following:

- If you are 65+: Pre-register to join the Spartanburg Regional list at: <https://www.spartanburgregional.com/vaccine>
Under occupation, list: USC Upstate - [Job Category]- [Campus or Virtual]
- You may also search for appointment registration or waitlist options at other sites using <https://vaxlocator.dhec.sc.gov/>
- Phase 1a is expected to last through February; if appointments are not immediately accessible, more should become available as state allocation continues in weeks to come

There were 21 cases of COVID-19 reported to Health Services in the last week, nine of which had some form of contact with campus in the pre-symptomatic period. Continue to maintain 6 feet of distance and wear masks to cover nose, mouth and chin. All cases have been isolated, and close contacts quarantined. Our campus classrooms, bathrooms and common areas are cleaned and disinfected nightly with products effective against COVID-19. Special thanks to our custodial staff for all you have done, and continue to do, to keep our campus safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary D. Bucher".

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

University of South Carolina Upstate

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