

From: [Office of the Chancellor](#)
Subject: Weekly Public Health Update
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 1:49:39 PM



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

March 26, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

In the last week, three on-campus and two off-campus cases of COVID-19 were reported. Cases have been isolated and traced, and contacts quarantined. Positive cases occurring on or off campus should be reported to Health Services at (864) 503-5191. Individuals should report illness; however, supervisors and faculty members may also report information received, and request Health Services reach out to a member of the campus community.

Our next asymptomatic screening clinic is **Monday, March 29, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**, in the Spartan Recreation Center. Testing is free of charge, no appointment needed. You may find the spring testing schedule and additional information [here](#). Appointments are available daily at Health Services for anyone with symptoms who needs testing, and most results are provided the same day. This week, 101 individuals attended the asymptomatic screening clinic at the Spartan Recreation Center. All test results were negative.

For the remainder of the semester, the clinic testing will be a PCR saliva sample, in partnership with USC School of Pharmacy. This testing is effective in identifying currently infectious COVID-19 cases, and positive cases may be tested for variants as well. Prior to saliva testing, please do not eat, use tobacco, or chew gum within 30 minutes of the test, or drink water within 10 minutes of testing. However, ***please hydrate with water in the hour prior to your appointment***, stopping 10 minutes before your test, to assist you in providing a sample.

Human Resources shared a mammography screening clinic date this morning. Recent COVID-19 vaccination may temporarily increase lymph node swelling as the body mounts an antibody response to the immunization. Some medical professionals are recommending a wait of six weeks after vaccination to get a routine mammogram, to limit the risk of a false result. Human Resources is working with the Bearden-Josey Center to evaluate scheduling options, and they will provide information next week about rescheduling or adding summer or fall campus mammography clinic dates for women who are getting vaccinated this spring. Please watch

for additional communication in the coming weeks.

I encourage you to register for vaccination using the [USC Upstate COVID-19 Vaccine Registration Form](#) if you have not already done so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary D. Bucher". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "M" and "B".

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