

September 17, 2021

To Faculty, Staff and Students,

As promised, this is our weekly public health update. We appreciate all you are doing to ensure the safety of our campus community. **Please continue to place health and safety first by wearing masks, social distancing, and most importantly, getting vaccinated.** If you have not yet been vaccinated, please consider doing so. You can always find [current information on the university website](#), including vaccine clinic dates. If you have questions about the vaccine, we encourage you to [view this video](#) provided by our partners at the Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System.

### Health Services

- Please remember that if you feel sick (whether you are vaccinated or unvaccinated), you should NOT go to class or work. **Please call Health Services at 864-503-5191** to speak with a member of our Health Services team. Additionally, if you receive notification that you were exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19, and you are not fully vaccinated, you must NOT go to class, enter campus buildings, go to work, or go to outdoor events. You now meet criteria for quarantine and must report this to Health Services at 864-503-5191. If you are identified in a campus contact tracing investigation, you will be notified by Health Services.
- Health Services will open its third facility next week at the USC Upstate Pine Street location to accommodate **expansion of its COVID-19 Contact Tracing Center** staff. Using a successful model implemented on the UofSC Columbia campus, Health Services is expanding its team to include Student Pandemic Response workers. These trained nursing, community health, and health informatics upperclassmen are using their talents to serve fellow Spartans. In the future, the Pine Street location may also serve as an anchor for additional resources as we continue to respond to the impact of COVID-19 on our campus and community.
- We are pleased to share that 48 individuals participated in our on-campus Pfizer vaccine clinic last week. Our **next Pfizer clinic** is scheduled for Friday, October 1, from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. You may preregister for the clinic through [MyHealth](#). Individuals who received Dose 1 at the September 10th clinic are automatically registered for Dose 2, and should check MyHealth for an appointment time.
- This week's [VAX UP drawing](#) winners are: Students **Mayah Taylor, Julie Canete, Edwin Ramos Garcia, Madison Fowler, Abigail Eunice** and staff members **Les Duggins** and **Rob Sarver**. Remember to **submit your completed vaccine card to be eligible** for the next Wednesday prize drawing. Winners will be notified on Tuesday so they can attend.

- Health Services will host an on-campus **Flu Clinic** on Wednesday, September 22, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm at the Rampey Center, sponsored by Ingles. No cash will be accepted on-site, but the cost can be billed to insurance. No appointment is necessary.
- We continue to populate our COVID-19 [data dashboard](#), which is updated weekly. The dashboard reflects details about current conditions on campus. Additional community data may be found on the [DHEC](#) and [CDC](#) websites.

### **Academic Affairs**

- Provost Schechter responded to a faculty resolution this week that addresses teaching modalities. Given the effectiveness of our mitigation efforts, and our commitment to the campus community to provide face-to-face teaching, we are not recommending a return to all online teaching at this time. Requests for temporary or permanent changes to teaching modality or schedules will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and we encourage faculty to work with their deans and department chairs on these individual requests.
- We encourage all faculty and staff to speak to their vice chancellors, deans or department chairs about any concerns.

### **Facilities**

- Our Facilities teams continue to work to maintain safe conditions on campus. You may [report any unsafe conditions](#) on the university website.

Thank you for remaining vigilant as we work to minimize ongoing impacts of the pandemic.

Sincerely,



Bennie L. Harris  
Chancellor

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

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