

From: [Office of the Chancellor](#)
Subject: A Message From the Chancellor: Mask UP
Date: Thursday, July 2, 2020 2:16:05 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
Importance: High



July 2, 2020

Colleagues,

As we approach the holiday weekend, I wanted to take a moment to underscore that our leadership team continues to work diligently to ensure the health and safety of our campus community. I hope that as you make plans to celebrate this July 4th, you will take precautions to protect yourself and others.

Unfortunately, the numbers of coronavirus cases in South Carolina are on the rise. **When you return to campus on Monday, our expectation is that you will wear a face covering when in any public space on campus.** This includes restrooms, hallways, stairwells, breakrooms or offices other than your own.

The evidence is clear: We can significantly reduce spread of the virus if we are all wearing face masks. As stated in our Safe Start Plan, USC Upstate will follow closely the health and safety protocols provided by the CDC and DHEC. [These measures](#) were updated earlier this week to include a recommendation that face masks be worn by all in public settings.

Additionally, this week public health experts in the state noted that wearing a mask now is critical as we will likely experience the impacts of our collective actions in four to six weeks. As we prepare to welcome students back to campus and as we continue to see employees return to the workplace this summer, our efforts now will make a difference in the number of cases we see next month.

We continue to update information on our [Safe Start](#) web pages. Please check them regularly. Other protocols and employee forms related to the pandemic are located here.

I hope you and your families have a safe and enjoyable 4th of July holiday. Mask UP!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julian Cary". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light gray background.

J. Derham Cole, Jr.
Interim Chancellor

University of South Carolina Upstate
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Up is where we live.