

From: [Office of the Chancellor](#)
Subject: Weekly Public Health Update, 70+ Vaccine Registration Link
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 1:19:35 PM
Importance: High



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

January 15, 2021

Dear Faculty and Staff,

South Carolina health authorities announced Wednesday that COVID-19 vaccination eligibility is now **open to individuals age 70 and older**. If you are age 70 or older, we encourage you to pre-register today using this link: <https://www.spartanburgregional.com/vaccine>

Vaccination has been deemed safe—95% effective through clinical trials. We are working closely with the Spartanburg Regional Hospital System to understand how we can best support their efforts to immunize the community, in accordance with their vaccine distribution center operations and the South Carolina [phased vaccination plan](#).

We have been advised that the most efficient way for currently eligible individuals to join the pre-registration list is through the Spartanburg Regional link noted above.

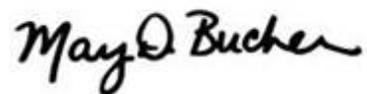
In your excitement and hope, I urge you to be patient after joining the waitlist once you become eligible. Appointments will be made in accordance with federal allocation available, and states, counties, and distribution centers differ in supply and demand. In this momentous effort, there will be some variation in the pace at which states and sites can offer vaccinations through the established phases. **We will continue to work with our partners at the Spartanburg Regional Hospital System to be responsive to shifting needs, and to communicate with and advocate for the Upstate community.**

COVID-19 cases and deaths are rising in South Carolina, and yesterday SC DHEC stated that hospitals are experiencing an “overwhelming increase in the number of patients.” Please continue to protect USC Upstate and our community by wearing masks, practicing social distancing and good hand hygiene, and remaining steadfast in our COVID-19 precautions.

This week, 23 new cases of COVID-19 were reported to USC Upstate Health Services, and most individuals did not have any contact with campus during the contagious period. All known positive cases have been isolated, and contact traced, and close campus contacts quarantined. We continue to [update data weekly](#) on our dedicated web pages.

We have maintained a stable campus environment due to your daily efforts to respect health and safety guidelines. Please be vigilant and stay well.

Sincerely,

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

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Up is where we live.