

Dear GCU students and families:

We are proud of the way students have adjusted to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic since returning to campus two weeks ago. Students are, for the most part, being diligent about wearing face coverings and practicing physical distancing – particularly in classrooms, laboratories and other academic settings.

There are currently 25 active cases (24 students and 1 employee) of COVID-19 that have occurred in the past two weeks. Most of those, due to the incubation period, have come in the last seven days and have not been concentrated in any one area of campus. Totals for the fall semester, which are backdated to Aug. 1 since some students were on campus during that month, are 39 positive cases (33 students, 6 employees).

That data is updated twice a week and posted on GCU's [COVID information page](#) under an FAQ in the "Health" section.

Students who have tested positive and those who have been in close contact with a positive individual have been placed in quarantine either at the GCU Hotel or at their off-campus residence. None have reported serious complications or symptoms and all are being cared for by GCU's health staff.

Through contact tracing, we believe most of the positive cases originated from group settings – mostly during the evening – which serves as a reminder that in these situations students need to remain diligent, be mindful of one another, wash your hands frequently, maintain physical distancing and wear a face covering. This includes outdoor settings. As stated in previous communications, face coverings are required in all outdoor settings where physical distancing of at least 6 feet is not possible.

As we saw last week, COVID can affect anyone – even the President of the United States – and we must be extra careful when around others and maintain the same COVID protocols and behaviors when visiting areas away from campus.

As a reminder, voluntary COVID-19 testing is available at the GCU Health and Wellness Clinic for any students who wish to be tested. Simply call 844-391-1949 to request a test.

Students are also strongly encouraged to get a flu shot. Passport Health is partnering with GCU's Health and Wellness Clinic and the College of Nursing and Health Care Professions to administer flu shots in front of GCU Arena on Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. They are free, regardless of insurance.