

Subject: Update on UWA's COVID-19 Response and Testing
Date: Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 2:44:30 PM Central Daylight Time
From: UWA President
To: All Faculty and Staff, All Students
Attachments: image001.gif, image002.png, image003.png, image004.png, image005.png, image006.png



Weekly COVID-19 Response Update

Dear UWA Family,

I am encouraged by the recent extension of eligibility for all individuals in the state of Alabama age 16 and older to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Through vaccination, our University can more quickly return to “normal” here on campus. For those of you who have not yet been vaccinated, I want to strongly encourage you to receive the vaccine, as I have, and a very high rate of employees have. Individuals who are fully vaccinated are said to be less likely to contract COVID-19 and do not have to quarantine in situations where they have been exposed to an individual who has COVID-19.

The University will continue to adhere to the [Operational Plan for Spring 2021](#) for the remainder of this semester. ***This includes the requirement, among others, that facial coverings be worn at all times on campus when social distancing cannot be maintained.***

Weekly testing continues on our campus. Information on GuideSafe™ Sentinel Testing can be found [here](#). Sentinel Testing, which will continue through April 29, is voluntary and designed for asymptomatic individuals.

- Currently, 2 students and 1 employee (0.19% of the student population and 0.20% of total on-campus population) have reported positive cases of COVID-19. This total includes GuideSafe™ Sentinel Testing for the week ending April 16. For the week ending April 16, 62 Sentinel Tests were performed with 1 positive case of COVID-19. *So far this semester 977 Sentinel Tests have been performed with 5 positive results.*
- Currently, 6 students and 1 employee of the University are in quarantine (approximately 0.46% of the University community) due to experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms or from potential exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

If I can help in any way this semester, please feel free to let me know.

Take care and be safe,



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[Operational Plan for Spring Semester 2021](#)

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