

Subject: Update on UWA's COVID-19 Response and Testing
Date: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 2:48:10 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,

As the 2021 Spring Semester draws to a close, I want to thank everyone for helping make this a successful semester. For those of you leaving campus for the summer, I hope you have a safe and enjoyable time. And a special note to those students graduating this week, I want to congratulate you on a terrific accomplishment and wish you continued good fortune as you move to your next endeavor. Remember that commencement is not an ending but the beginning of the next chapter in your life, and while you may no longer be a student on campus, the University of West Alabama will still be here to help you in any way possible.

Even as many depart from campus for a few months, I want to strongly encourage those of you who have not yet been vaccinated to use this time to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. All individuals in the state of Alabama age 16 and older are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. [We are looking forward to a much more traditional fall semester](#), and widespread vaccination will allow the University to return to more normal operations and activities on campus. Also, remember that individuals who are fully vaccinated are 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. For information on where you can receive your vaccination, [visit vaccinefinder.org](https://www.vaccinefinder.org).

The University will soon release its Operational Plan for Summer 2021. This plan will align campus health and safety protocols with federal and state guidance. The tone of this plan will be more permissive than prohibitive.

- Currently, 0 students and 0 employees (0.00% of the student population and 0.00% of total on-campus population) have reported positive cases of COVID-19. This total includes GuideSafe™ Sentinel Testing for the week ending April 30. For the week ending April 30, 50 Sentinel Tests were performed with 0 positive cases of COVID-19. **Sentinel Testing has concluded for the Spring Semester.** *This*

semester 1,077 Sentinel Tests were performed with only 5 positive results.

- Currently, 0 students and 1 employee of the University are in quarantine (approximately 0.065% of the University community) due to experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms or from potential exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

As we move into the summer months, this will be the last weekly update. The University will continue to keep you updated as necessary. Thank you again for your help in making this a successful semester.

Take care and be safe,



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[Operational Plan for Spring Semester 2021](#)

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