



August 20, 2020

To All Staff:

This is week twenty of our employee COVID-19 update.

Status Update

Each week we will provide you with updated information on COVID-testing at all of our campuses.

| Testing Tracker: Summary of Employees & Residents Diagnostic Testing | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Employees | To date (since pandemic start) | | | | New Suspected Cases | | | |
| | Employees tested | Tests Pending | Employees Positive | Employees Negative | Employees tested | Tests Pending | Employees Positive | Employees Negative |
| Chase | 11 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| GSFH | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| GSVE | 11 | 0 | 1* | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | * last worked 3/29 | | | | | |
| Residents | To date (since pandemic start) | | | | New Suspected Cases | | | |
| Residents tested | Tests Pending | Residents Positive | Residents Negative | Residents tested | Tests Pending | Residents Positive | Residents Negative | |
| Chase | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| GSFH | 21 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 1 | 0 | 0 | |
| GSVE | 22 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Tested as of 8/12/20 | | | | 8/13/20-8/19/20 | | | | |
| Please note some testing was purely precautionary as the individual was asymptomatic. Ex: fall led to ER visit and tested. | | | | | | | | |

NYS DOH Mandatory Testing for all Staff (Reminder)

Per the DOH guidelines for mandatory testing, the week runs from **Wednesday-Tuesday**. We are now in the week of August 19-25, a new week will start on August 26, which will run to August 26 – September 1. When scheduling or planning your appointment to be tested, please keep the week dates in mind in order to be in compliance with the Executive Order. This Executive Order was extended through September 4, 2020. We will keep you posted on any updates.

The testing times for each campus will be as follows:

| <u>GSFH</u> | | <u>GSVE</u> | | <u>Chase</u> | |
|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|--------------|---------|
| Tuesday | 2-4pm | Monday | 2-4pm | Monday | 5am-5pm |
| Wednesday | 7-9am | Tuesday | 2-4pm | Tuesday | 5am-5pm |
| Thursday | 2-4pm | Wednesday | 2-4pm | Wednesday | 5am-5pm |
| Friday | 7-9am | Friday | 2-4pm | | |

If you miss the weekly test, you cannot work and will not receive any pay, including benefit time, until you are tested. This includes using benefit time that was pre-approved for any time you are non-compliant prior to being tested. Please understand we are taking this strong stance not to be punitive but because NYS DOH will be monitoring our compliance with the weekly testing requirements, and any non-compliance among our employees can result in the facility itself being penalized. We have eliminated the earlier requirement that we receive a negative test result prior to return in recognition that testing results are now taking an extended time. **Please help us meet this NYS DOH requirement by planning ahead and taking responsibility to be in compliance even if you are scheduled to be out for some portion of the testing week.** Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Surveys Resuming

Regular surveys are resuming for long-term providers after being suspended for nearly five months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services announced late Monday that it will resume routine inspections of all Medicare and Medicaid-certified providers. The State has been authorized for additional onsite revisits and other types of surveys, in addition to immediate jeopardy and infection control inspections.

NY Gyms Reopening

NYS announced that on August 24th, gyms can reopen at 33% capacity with mandatory mask wearing and other strict infection control measures. For example, HVAC systems must meet guidelines, sign-in forms to track who is entering and leaving will be required, regular disinfection of all equipment between users is required, as is COVID-19 screenings, which may include temperature checks. We are working at GSVE and GSFH to meet all the new requirements, and should be announcing reopening dates soon.

Bowling Alleys Reopening

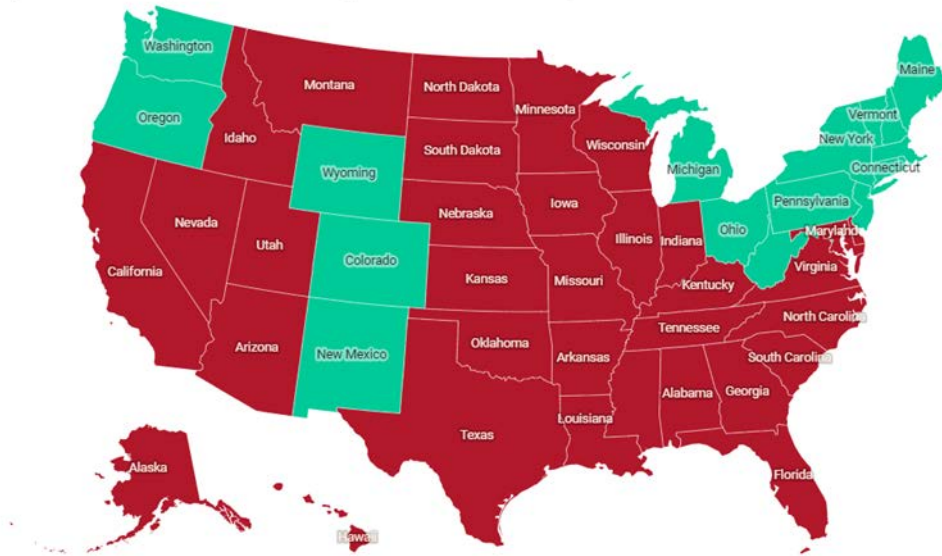
Bowling alleys were able to open Monday, August 17th, at 50% capacity, with masks required at all times, as well as social distancing. Every other lane must be closed, and you must stay with your party within the assigned lane. Thorough cleaning and disinfecting of the rented equipment must be performed between each use as well as other safety guidelines.

NYS Quarantine Travel Restrictions (update)

The list has been expanded again (newly added states in italics), the advisory applies to anyone traveling from Alabama, *Alaska*, Arizona, Arkansas, California, *Delaware*, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin, and two territory - Puerto Rico, and Virgin Island. No states have been removed from the list this week.

State Quarantine List

As of August 18, travelers to NJ/NY/CT from the red states (plus Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) must self-quarantine for 14 days. Travelers from the green states can come and go.



Per NYS, if you travel to a prohibited area, you cannot return without providing the results of a negative test conducted within 24 hours of your return to NYS. GSC has determined the period while you await your results is not eligible to quarantine pay and you may not use benefit time. If you do decide to travel to a restricted zone, you should carefully consider the availability of testing upon your return, and the average length of time people are waiting for their results - 5+ days unless you have access to the rapid response testing which is not widely available.

In addition, if you do become ill, NYS COVID pay is not available per NYS guidelines because you have traveled to a high risk area as defined by NYS.

We are highly recommending for the health and welfare of our residents and staff members that you adhere to the travel restrictions. We understand this may mean canceling vacations or missing important life events, and know how difficult these decisions can be. But we all have a responsibility to our fellow New Yorkers, our co-workers, and our residents to do our part to avoid the spread of COVID-19.

Results of Mass Testing 8/13-8/19 (for employees who passed the screening process)

| Mass Employee Testing | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | Tested | Positive | Negative | Inconclusive or Indeterminate |
| GSFH | 187 | 0 | 187 | 0 |
| GSVE | 165 | 1 | 164 | 0 |
| Chase | 66 | 0 | 64 | 2 |

Please note the positive test at GSVE was actually an employee who had tested positive previously who retested positive, not a new case.

In the last round of testing 8/13-8/19, we had the following positive results:

GSFH

- No positive results.

GSVE

- No positive results.

Chase

- No positive results.



We really appreciate your on-going commitment to Good Shepherd-thanks for all you do!

Sincerely,

Linda Parke,
Director of Human Resources