



July 30, 2020

To All Staff:

This is week seventeen 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.

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	9	0	0	9	1	1	0	0	
GSFH	20	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	
GSVE	16	0	0	16	4	0	0	4	
Tested as of 7/22/20				7/23/20-7/29/20					
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 July 29–August 4; a new week will start on August 5, which will run to August 5–11. 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 August 8, 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 is a revision from our previous policy that required a negative result prior to return.

Furthermore, it is important to note that if you work any portion of a week (Wed-Tues), you must be tested *within that week*. This applies even if you have planned vacation time within the week. As an example, you worked on Wednesday, July 29, and then are off Thursday and Friday, and the entire following week. You must be tested on Wednesday, July 29, even if you were just tested the day prior. You also would need to be tested on the Monday or Tuesday of the week you return. NYS is looking at this on a week-to-week basis. If you are not compliant with this, you will not be able to use your benefit time to cover the time you were non-compliant and cannot return until you are tested.

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, Idaho, *Illinois*, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, *Kentucky*, Louisiana, Maryland, *Minnesota*, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and two territories - *Puerto Rico, and Washington D.C.*

If you travel to a prohibited area, you cannot return without a negative test conducted within 24 hours of your return to NYS, and the waiting period is not subject to quarantine pay and you may not use benefit time. In addition, if you do become ill, NYS COVID pay is not available. **We are highly recommending for the health and welfare of our residents and staff members that you adhere to the travel restrictions.**

UnitedHealthcare and Excellus

UnitedHealthcare recognizes that COVID-19 continues to have an impact on the health care system across the country — both for COVID-19 related care as well as for regular visits. To provide you with ongoing support, UnitedHealthcare is extending many of the COVID-19 temporary coverage changes **through October 22, 2020, the new extended date for the national public health emergency period**, for care and support received from network providers (please note that these extensions do not apply to care received from out-of-network providers).

Excellus BlueCross BlueShield will continue to waive out of pocket costs for COVID-19 diagnosis and treatment for its fully insured employer groups, individual market qualified health plans and Medicare Advantage members **through September 7, 2020**. This waives the member's copayment or cost share for diagnosis and treatment, even if that treatment is delivered in the hospital. The Health Plan also provides coverage in full for medically appropriate COVID-19 testing.

We Care Differential (Reminder)

The “*We Care*” differential will be ending as of July 31, 2020.

Results of Mass Testing (for employees who passed the screening process)

Mass Employee Testing				
	Tested	Positive	Negative	Inconclusive or Indeterminate
GSFH	196	2	194	0
GSVE	168	1	167	0
Chase	113	0	108	5

In the last round of testing, we had the following positive results:

GSFH

- Dietary Employee: Asymptomatic. Self-isolation for 14 days. No close contact with any residents or other staff.
- Office Staff: Asymptomatic. Self-isolation for 14 days. No close contact with any residents or other staff.

GSVE

- Assisted Living Residence employee: Asymptomatic. Self-isolation for 14 days. No other staff members were in close contact with this staff member. Four residents were in close contact and have been placed on droplet precautions. The unit is under quarantine which means we alert any potential admissions of the situation in case they want to reconsider, and our current residents are restricted to the unit.

Chase

- No new positive results

Our staffs at all of our campuses are monitoring these situations in collaboration with both the NYS DOH and local department of health and will follow all recommendations.



Thanks for all your hard work and enjoy what's left of July!

Sincerely,

Linda Parke,
Director of Human Resources