



September 24, 2020

To All Staff:

**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	9	0	3	6	1	0	0	1
GSVE	11	0	1	10	1	0	0	1

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	0
GSFH	29	0	4	25	3	0	0	3
GSVE	26	0	0	26	1	0	0	1

Tested as of 9/16/20      9/17/20-9/23/20  
Please note some testing was purely precautionary as the individual was asymptomatic. Ex: fall led to ER visit and tested.

Please note the chart above is for testing conducted for cause only. At this time, it does not include the mass staff weekly testing discussed below, resident exposure testing, or staff testing done as part of any pre-op procedures.

**NYS DOH Mandatory Testing for all Staff: Results of GS week of 9/10-9/16/20:**

Mass Employee Testing				
	Tested	Positive	Negative	Inconclusive or Indeterminate
GSFH	212	3 ( all repeats not new cases)	209	0
GSVE	136	0	136	0
Chase	111	0	107	4

**Staff Testing 9/17/20-9/23/20**

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

*GSFH*

- No new positive staff results.

*GSVE*

- No new positive staff results.

*Chase*

- No new positive staff results.

**Resident Testing 9/17-9/23/20**

*GSFH*

- No positive resident results.
- We conducted mass testing of all of our SNF residents, and all have come back as negative.

*Chase*

- No positive resident tests.

*GSVE*

- No positive resident tests.
- We conducted mass testing of all of our SNF residents, and all have come back as negative.

We continue to have a daily monitoring system to monitor all residents for signs/symptoms of COVID-19, as well as our daily screening for all staff.

**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 September 23-29. A new week will start on September 23rd, which will run to September 30-October 6. 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. The Executive Order was extending through October 4, 2020. We will keep you posted on any updates.

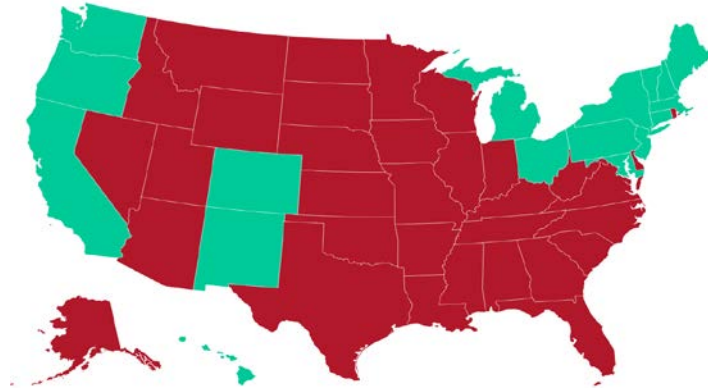
The testing times for each campus will be as follows:

<u>GSFH</u>		<u>GSVE</u>		<u>Chase</u>	
Tuesday	2-4pm	Monday	2-4pm	Monday	5-8am & 1-4pm
Wednesday	7-9am	Tuesday	2-4pm	Tuesday	5-8am & 1-4pm
Thursday	2-4pm	Wednesday	2-4pm	Wednesday	5-8am & 1-4pm
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.

## NYS Quarantine Travel Restrictions

The list has been revised again as of 9/22/2020 (changes in *italics*), the advisory applies to anyone traveling from Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, *Arizona*, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, *Minnesota*, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, *Nevada*, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, *Rhode Island*, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, *Wyoming*, and two territories – Guam and Puerto Rico. No states were removed from the list.



**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.

### Visitations

We have already opened for visitation at GSVE for our ALR residents and will be opening for Chase residents tomorrow. We also hope to meet the criteria for visitations at all levels at all facilities soon. This is very exciting for our residents and their loved ones, but we need your help. If you or anyone you know are interested in a flexible, paid position to monitor resident's visits, please contact HR to discuss your options.

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

Sincerely,

Linda Parke  
Director of Human Resources