**Memorandum**

TO:              USG Staff

FROM:        The Office of Human Resources

DATE:         January 12, 2021

SUBJECT:  COVID Testing Requirements

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your continued diligence to help keep the Universities at Shady Grove (USG) community healthy and safe. Daily symptom monitoring, physical distancing, face coverings, and testing are tools we use to create a low-transmission environment at USG. This communication provides important information on current testing requirements for USG staff returning to campus between January 4 and 24 as well as expectations for the Spring 2021 semester starting January 25.

Following guidance by the University System of Maryland (USM), all USG staff, faculty, and students are required to be tested for COVID-19 on an ongoing basis. Anyone returning to campus must be tested 14 days prior to returning. Currently, we are asking that everyone get tested before returning to campus after their winter break. Starting in the Spring 2021 semester (January 25), on-going testing will be required for all staff and faculty members every two weeks. Please note that these requirements may change as the situation evolves and as we receive new guidance from the USM. We will continue to update you on any changes in requirements for the Spring 2021 semester.

The University of Maryland (UMD) continues to host free testing events for all staff and faculty members. At this time, UMD offers "PCR" or Polymerase Chain Reaction COVID-19 testing. Appointments are required. For more information on the testing schedule and registration, please visit [return.umd.edu](http://return.umd.edu/). You can also get tested at other [Montgomery County testing locations](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19/testing.html).

Based upon CDC guidance, anyone who has been in close contact with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19 should self-quarantine for 14 days. Individuals who are symptomatic and awaiting COVID test results should isolate for 10 days upon the onset of symptoms.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the [Office of Human Resources](https://shadygrove.umd.edu/faculty-and-staff/human-resources).

Thank you and be safe!

Regards,

Nitshu

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