This weekly newsletter contains important information about UW-Eau Claire’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic and offers Blugolds details on how to access key resources and assist others on our campuses and in our communities.

Antigen testing begins for people without COVID-19 symptoms
Free antigen testing is available now to all UW-Eau Claire students, faculty, staff and their dependents who do not have COVID-19 symptoms. The expanded testing is part of a UW System-wide effort to stem the surge of virus cases in the state, with additional community testing to be announced at an off-campus site. Testing is available now for all UW-Eau Claire students who live off campus and for employees and their dependents aged 5 and older. The site in the Dakota Ballroom of Davies Center is open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Access to Davies Center will be through the southwest service doors next to the loading dock to isolate the testing queue from the rest of the building. The Davies Center doors nearest The Cabin will remain “exit only” doors as they have been since the start of the semester. Testing also is available in the gym on the Rice Lake campus from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 11, 17 and 23, and Dec. 1 and 9. Registration is available online here.
‘Blugolds Care’ program supports students in isolation, quarantine
Housing and Residence Life’s "Blugolds Care" program connect students in quarantine and isolation with a volunteer from the Blugold community to assist with everyday tasks. This program is available to all members of the Blugold community in the immediate Eau Claire area. Housing and Residence Life will manage the information collected and pair a volunteer with a person requesting assistance. Volunteers will not provide medical advice and will not come into direct contact with the student they are assisting. UW-Eau Claire students requesting assistance must have tested positive for COVID-19 or be awaiting test results and currently in quarantine. People are asked to sign up to request assistance or serve as a volunteer. 

Link to new COVID-19 public exposures added to university update page
The Eau Claire City-County Health Department is sharing COVID-19 exposure notices with the community to ensure the public is aware of places where individuals may have come in contact with a person who has tested positive for the virus. The exposure notices are updated regularly, and you can find a link on the university’s COVID-19 Updates page that links directly to the running list of public exposure notices.

More than 10,000 Blugolds using Blugold Protocol to monitor their health
More than 10,000 Blugolds have downloaded, registered and are using the Blugold Protocol app, and if you have not yet added the self-monitoring health app to your phone, now is the time to take a few easy steps to stay safe. If you are an iPhone user, visit the Apple Store and download the app. If you have an Android device, visit the Google Play store. If you don’t use a mobile device, you can visit https://blugold.selfmonitoringapp.com, save it as a favorite and log your information in the desktop solution. As a Blugold Protocol user, you are asked to choose one platform — mobile app or desktop solution — to log your information. Daily entry of your health status is required, and this includes weekends and holidays throughout the 2020-21 academic year. All students, faculty and staff of UW-Eau Claire are required to log their daily symptoms in the Blugold Protocol app. This includes days when you are not expecting to come to campus in Eau Claire, Marshfield or Barron County. You can find more information on the Blugold Protocol app on the university webpage. The app will notify you if your symptoms indicate that you should consult with Student Health Service or your health care provider. For Blugolds in programs that do not require you to attend any function on campus (e.g., 100% online programs), you are excused from using the Blugold Protocol this semester.

COVID-19 resources online
If you want up-to-date information on COVID-19 and UW-Eau Claire’s response to the pandemic, visit the university’s COVID-19 Updates webpage, where you can find past editions of this newsletter, video messages from Chancellor Schmidt and important emails that have been shared with campus.
Vital Statistics
(as of noon Thursday, Nov. 5)

Confirmed Cases of COVID-19
Worldwide: 48,745,349
United States: 9,839,227
Wisconsin: 244,002
Eau Claire County: 4,316
Barron County: 1,494
Wood County: 2,188

UW-Eau Claire COVID-19 Dashboard, updated daily

Look for the next Blugold Flight Plan newsletter on Nov. 12.

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