

Nov. 19, 2020



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.

Volunteers needed for community testing site at Memorial High School

UW-Eau Claire is looking for faculty and staff volunteers to help at the community antigen testing site Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays at Memorial High School. In the first three days of operation, more than 900 residents have been tested at the site. Volunteers are critical to the success of the surge testing site, and the main duties for volunteers include guiding the flow of traffic, answering questions from community members and verifying registration appointments. UW-Eau Claire provides personal protective equipment (masks, shield and gloves). Volunteers are needed for the following dates: Nov. 21, 22, 28 and 29, and Dec. 2, 5, 6 and 9. Shifts are from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and 4 p.m.-9 p.m. Those interested should contact [Arjen van Dijk](#).

UW-Eau Claire campuses begin 100% remote instruction on Nov. 30

After Gov. Tony Evers' executive order recommending additional steps to stem the surge of COVID-19 and news that Chippewa Valley hospitals are at capacity, Chancellor Schmidt announced that UW-Eau Claire will move to 100% remote educational delivery beginning Nov. 30 and for the remaining three weeks of the semester. Even with remote instruction, the **campus will remain open** and university services available for students, faculty and staff in Eau Claire and Rice Lake. Students who are in

internships, clinicals and field placements will receive communication from their programs about how those experiences will proceed following the November break. Eau Claire residence halls will be open and meal services will continue in to-go containers. The provost and college deans will work with faculty and instructors to assure the transition to remote learning is smooth for students.

Antigen testing for those who return to campus following holiday break

Students, faculty and staff who choose to return to campus after fall break will undergo increased antigen testing procedures with two tests per week. Any student or employee who leaves campus for the November holiday next week and intends to return to campus will be required to be COVID tested once before break and two additional times when they return. This also applies to people who host out-of-town guests for the holiday. Between tests, people must remain separate, wear masks, maintain physical distancing and monitor for symptoms. If they test positive, quarantine and isolation protocols will be followed. If the standards are not met, students will not be allowed to return to any classroom or congregated setting following the break. Watch for more testing information to come.

Davies Center COVID-19 testing continues

Students, faculty, staff and their dependents should continue to be tested using the free antigen tests available to all who do not have COVID-19 symptoms. Testing is available and encouraged 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. 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. 19)

Confirmed Cases of COVID-19

Worldwide: 57,028,617

United States: 11,965,577

Wisconsin: 350,665

Eau Claire County: 6,685

Barron County: 2,930

Wood County: 3,727

[UW-Eau Claire COVID-19 Dashboard, updated daily](#)

Look for the next Blugold Flight Plan newsletter on Dec. 3.

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