COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions
Fall 2021 International Student Orientation

If you have additional questions after reviewing this information, please contact isl@uga.edu.

Will I need to arrive early to UGA, or plan to quarantine, prior to my arrival for international student orientation?
At this time, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) does not require a quarantine period upon arrival, but recommends that you take extra steps to monitor your health for 14 days. All air passengers arriving to the United States (including U.S. Citizens) are required to have a negative COVID-19 test result or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 before boarding a flight to the United States. Be sure to check with your airline for specific documentation information. You can find more information on the pre-flight testing requirement here.

Will I contract COVID-19 during international student orientation?
There is always an inherent risk that you may contract COVID-19 anywhere, not just at the University or in the United States. As of early May 2021, nearly 50% of adults in the United States have received one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. As such, with increased vaccinations, the risk for all members of the UGA community decreases.

What is DawgCheck? Do I need to complete DawgCheck prior to international student orientation each day?
DawgCheck is an online tool to help assess and respond to COVID-19 cases at UGA in an effort to keep the campus community safe. DawgCheck consists of a reporting function, which must be used by anyone who has received a positive COVID-19 test result, as well as a symptom-checking tool, which we strongly encourage everyone to use before coming to campus or leaving your residence hall in the morning. ISL requests that all students complete DawgCheck each morning prior to the start of international student orientation.

Learn more about DawgCheck at dawgcheck.uga.edu/support.

Can I get a COVID-19 test at UGA if I am symptomatic?
Students who are showing symptoms should seek care from the University Health Center. Please do not walk in. Make an appointment via telehealth or in person by calling 706-542-1162 or your primary care team’s number. Should you become symptomatic during international student orientation, please contact ISL staff immediately via phone at 706-542-5867 or email at isl@uga.edu. Additionally, ISL staff and orientation World Leaders can assist you in contacting the University Health Center if needed.

What happens if I contract COVID-19 at UGA or during international student orientation?
If you contract COVID-19 while at the University of Georgia, it is likely you will need to self-isolate until symptoms pass.

- For on-campus students living in University Housing (including University Village): University Housing will reach out with more information once a positive test is reported. UGA Housing has several hundred rooms identified for students who need to isolate, and who do not have the ability to return to their permanent home. These spaces have exterior exits, a microwave,
refrigerator, and in-room bathrooms. University Housing will provide disinfection kits, hygiene kits and linens to students in these spaces. UGA’s Student Care and Outreach will engage with all students who require isolation and will assist them based on their individual circumstances.

- For off-campus students: Student Care and Outreach will contact you upon the report of a positive test with further information and instructions.

**What happens if I contract COVID-19 while staying in orientation housing during international student orientation?**
Regardless of if you are staying in a University Housing space or in the Georgia Center hotel, please contact ISL Staff immediately via phone at 706-542-5867 or email at isl@uga.edu. ISL will work with University Housing or the Georgia Center, as applicable, to determine the best course of action in your specific situation. Please self-isolate until provided further instructions.

**Does UGA’s student health insurance cover costs and care associated with COVID-19?**
All international students on F or J visa status are required to participate, and are automatically enrolled, in the UGA Mandatory Student Health Insurance Plan. United Healthcare, the provider of this plan, has provided information for students related to coverage and COVID-19. For more information, please click here.

**Are masks required during international student orientation?**
The University System of Georgia has now updated its guidance on face coverings and social distancing in accordance with the advice provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on May 13, 2021. Effective immediately, fully vaccinated individuals can resume campus classes and other activities without physically distancing or wearing a mask. Unvaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to continue socially distancing from others when possible and wearing a face covering while inside campus facilities.

**Can I get a COVID-19 vaccine at UGA?**
Yes. You can receive a COVID-19 vaccine at UGA upon arrival. Vaccines are administered at no cost. For more information, please visit https://www.uhs.uga.edu/healthtopics/covid-vaccine.

**What COVID-19 vaccines are available?**
UGA receives supply of COVID-19 vaccines regularly, including Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson (Janssen). The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines require two doses, and you will receive the same vaccine as your first dose. The Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine requires one-dose. As long as adequate supplies of vaccine are available, you may choose between the Pfizer/Moderna or Johnson and Johnson (Janssen) vaccines. Currently those 12-18 years old must receive the Pfizer vaccine.

I received the first dose of Pfizer or Moderna before I arrived at UGA from another location in the United States or internationally. Can I get my second dose at UGA?
Yes. Be sure to bring your COVID-19 vaccination record to your appointment to confirm your vaccination type.

I received the first dose of another vaccine that is not approved in the United States (i.e., AstraZeneca) outside of the US. Can I get my second dose at UGA?
COVID-19 vaccines were previously recommended to be administered alone, with a minimum interval of 14 days before or after administration of any other vaccines. This was out of an abundance of caution.
and not due to any known safety or immunogenicity concerns. However, substantial data have now been collected regarding the safety of COVID-19 vaccines currently authorized by FDA for use under EUA. Although data are not available for COVID-19 vaccines administered simultaneously with other vaccines, extensive experience with non-COVID-19 vaccines has demonstrated that immunogenicity and adverse event profiles are generally similar when vaccines are administered simultaneously as when they are administered alone.

COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing. This includes simultaneous administration of COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines on the same day, as well as coadministration within 14 days. It is unknown whether reactogenicity of COVID-19 vaccine is increased with coadministration, including with other vaccines known to be more reactogenic, such as adjuvanted vaccines or live vaccines. When deciding whether to coadminister another vaccine(s) with COVID-19 vaccines, providers should consider whether the patient is behind or at risk of becoming behind on recommended vaccines, their risk of vaccine-preventable disease (e.g., during an outbreak or occupational exposures), and the reactogenicity profile of the vaccines.

For more information, please click here.