Spring Break Guidance for Students

Santa Barbara County is currently in the Purple Tier of the CDPH reopening plan. Travel is strongly discouraged, even if it is within the state. We are actively discouraging students from traveling over Spring Break because of the serious risk of spreading COVID-19 to family and friends, and also of bringing it back to our community. There are known, more contagious variants of COVID-19 circulating both north and south of Santa Barbara County. Anyone leaving and returning is at high risk of bringing a more contagious and possibly more severe COVID-19 variant into the UCSB community.

UC Santa Barbara is offering expanded no-cost testing for all its students regardless if you travel or not, both before and after spring break. You can schedule a test through the Student Health Portal.

Increased rates of COVID-19 infections in Isla Vista will prevent all of Santa Barbara County from easing restrictions on businesses, activities, and gatherings, and will prevent the campus from resuming activities, including in-person instruction, and opening facilities that serve students during future quarters.

If you remain in the Santa Barbara/Isla Vista area, there will be limited campus services available.

- Click here for Student Health Services hours of operation.
- Testing clinics will be run half days, Monday through Thursday, over Spring Break. All testing is at Loma Pelona.
  - Monday 3/22/2021 and Tuesday 3/23/2021: 1:05-4:40 pm
  - Wednesday 3/24/2021 and Thursday 3/25/2021: 8:30-11:40 am
- COVID-19 Quarantine and Isolation Housing services will be limited, and on an emergency basis only.

If you do leave the area and then later return, you should follow the guidelines listed below to ensure the safety of yourself and our Gaucho community.

Please click here for CDC information on risks involved with travel

Before you leave...

- Get tested with a viral test 1-3 days before you travel. Keep a copy of your test results with you during travel in case you are asked for them. Do NOT travel if you test positive.
- Check travel restrictions before you go.
- Testing will be available and can be scheduled here
  - UCSB Student Testing
Santa Barbara County Public Health Testing

- A negative test prior to leaving does not mean you won’t carry the virus out of the area!
  - The COVID-19 test is an indicator of COVID-19 status only at the time of testing. If you have been exposed either shortly prior to your test or after your test, you can still develop COVID-19 before you leave, or while you are gone.
  - While testing accuracy is improving, you can still have a false negative test.
  - Quarantining after a negative test result can help reduce your risk of carrying the virus home to loved ones.

While Away...

- Wear a mask at all times
- Maintain physical distancing
- Frequently wash your hands
- Avoid social gatherings

Upon Returning...

- Arrange for testing within 3-5 days of returning
  - UCSB Student Testing
  - Santa Barbara County Public Health Testing
- Enter a 7-day sequestration period (or 10 days if you are arriving from out of state or another country)
  - Do not leave your apartment/residential complex except for essential activities (such as medical appointments; consider using grocery delivery services).
  - If you share space, wear a mask except when in your personal bedroom or in the shower.
  - Maintain physical distancing within your apartment or residential complex.
    - Set up a kitchen schedule so residents do not occupy the kitchen at the same time
  - Wipe down all surfaces with appropriate cleaners in all common areas after use.
- Take a second COVID-19 test 7 days after returning to the area to ensure that infection has not subsequently developed.
- If both tests are negative:
  - You may resume normal activities, including on-campus classes, labs and work, while continuing to follow all COVID-19 public health protocols.
  - Wear a face covering at all times when outside of your residential unit, except while eating or exercising.
  - Maintain physical distancing at all times.
  - Frequently wash your hands.
  - Continue to monitor for symptoms. If symptoms develop, remain in your bedroom, contact the UCSB COVID-19 response team:
    - https://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu/ for Student Health Advice Nurses
    - 805-893-3113 or ucsb-covid19@ucsb.edu for COVID-19 Call Center
We wish all of you a successful completion of winter quarter and a wonderful and safe spring break. Stay Safe!