

What: COVID-19 Free Antibody Test for Chatham University Students and Staff

When: Monday, April 19

Where: Welker Room, Laughlin Music Hall

What's in it for us?

- Understand how much infection has occurred among a university in Pennsylvania
- Help us come up with better ways to protect students and staff at colleges

What's in it for you?

- Learn if you have antibodies to COVID-19, or if you don't
- Use this information to help protect yourself
- Contribute to science and help us learn about this virus

Dear Chatham University Student or Staff Member,

COVID-19 is a public health emergency that threatens our communities and will continue to be a big problem for many months ahead. To help us better track the natural progression of the disease, the Pennsylvania Department of Health is working with Chatham University to offer free antibody testing to students and staff. Antibodies are proteins that a person makes after they are infected or after they have been vaccinated to help recognize and fight off infection when exposed to the same virus in the future. With new strains emerging and vaccine limited by supply constraints, this is an important time to assess existing level of antibodies among people who have ongoing interactions due to work or school-related activities.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health is inviting you to contribute to the growing science of COVID-19 by offering free antibody tests to you on April 19. Participation is completely voluntary and involves registering, submitting a signed statement of informed consent, answering a short electronic questionnaire and allowing a phlebotomist to collect one tube of blood from you. We will keep all of your information confidential and provide the results of the test to you privately. I will also be available to answer any of your questions to help you understand what the results of the test mean for you.

If you would like to participate, please register at this link <u>COVID-19 Serology Study Chatham University Participant Registration</u>. Or you can scan the QR code with your camera feature on your smartphone to open the registration link.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Steven J. Alles, MD MS MFA

COVID-19 Medical Epidemiologist Bureau of Epidemiology | Pennsylvania Department of Health

