

USCSOMG

Hurricane Helene Update

UPDATE: September 30, 2024 at 2:00pm

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

As Hurricane Helene continues to impact our community, we want to ensure that everyone stays informed and safe. First and foremost, we hope that all of you made it through the storm safely. This storm was indeed catastrophic and unexpected, and we know it will take quite some time for everything to be back to normal. We are aware that many of you suffered damage to your homes and property and some of you are unable to safely leave your homes because of downed trees and power lines. Our thoughts are with all of you, and please contact any member of the leadership team if you need help. Here are the latest updates and important information:

Campus

The HSEB and HSAB buildings have electricity and are accessible to all currently. Feel free to use the facilities to recharge devices or access refrigerators as needed. Parking garages and lot gates are now lifted for ease of accessibility. When traveling to and from campus please allow extra time for travel and avoid flooded roads or areas with downed trees and powerlines.

Students

- **All M1 and M2 in-person classes are canceled for the remainder of the week.** We are looking to post recordings and hopefully some live sessions (as able) to cover as much content as possible for this week. We are trying to help students with transportation and internet/power/cell service issues gain access. We want to be as fair and equitable as possible as we look at scheduling, upcoming exams, and subsequent modules. We are trying to stay as close to on track as possible to avoid longer days of content or moving content and exams to after the winter holiday break. Additional information will be forthcoming; we appreciate your patience as we navigate this unprecedented situation.
- **For M3 and M4 students,** we are asking you to return to your clinical rotation sites as you are able. Please check to see if your site is open before travelling at [Prisma Health Closures](#). We are trying to track how many students are **not able** to get to clinical sites, so we ask that you complete the [absence request form](#) and submit the day as a scheduled request. If you have any specific questions, you can reach out to Dr. April

Buchanan april.buchanan@prismahealth.org, Dr. Sarah Payne-Poff Sarah.Payne-Poff2@prismahealthr.org, and Alex Tharpe TSANTAKI@greenvillemed.sc.edu (please send email to all).

- **For students on their OB and FM rotations**, you will receive a separate communication regarding the OSCE/OSAT. The shelf exam will be offered both October 3rd and October 8th.
- Any students needing help with transportation to campus, we have several faculty and staff available to assist with transportation needs. Please complete the transportation form linked [HERE](#) and we will be in touch to coordinate.
- Please continue to stay in touch with your class president through WhatsApp (as that access may be easier than email).

Faculty & Staff

- **Wednesday – Friday will be remote work as you are able.** We will reassess and provide updates for next week as soon as possible. We understand that many of you do not have power or access to WIFI.
- We understand that this may be a challenging time for many, and we are here to support you. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need any assistance or have any concerns.

Emergency Contacts

- **Prisma Health Emergency:** Extension 33911 (if calling from within SOMG campus)
- **Prisma Health Police Dispatch:** 864-455-7931 (if calling from within SOMG campus)
- **Greenville County Emergency:** 911
- **Designated Official (DO):** Dr. Phyllis MacGilvray, Office: 864-766-2661, Cell: 910-650-2819
- **Facilities Manager (FM):** Eric Baker, Office: 864-455-5936, Cell: 864-516-9727

Community Resources

- FEMA Assistance: <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/3619#local-resources>
- SC Emergency Information & Shelters: <https://www.scemd.org/>
- Showers and Laundry Services: [Walmart](#) is open for the next 14 days from 7:00am – 7:00pm
- Crisis Cleanup Hotline: Free damage clean up services call (844)965-1386
- American Red Cross: <https://www.redcross.org/get-help.html>
- SOMG Community Cookout: Tuesday, October 1st at 3:00pm in Youkey Plaza. [RSVP HERE](#)

Thank you for your dedication and resilience during this challenging time. Together, we will navigate through this storm.

Stay safe,

Phyllis MacGilvray, MD
Dean, USC SOMG