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**SIU Campus Resources**

- **SIU Police**
  618-453-3771
- **Parking Division**
  618-453-5369
- **Counseling Center**
  618-453-5371
- **Wellness Center**
  618-536-4441
- **Student Health Services**
  618-453-3311
- **Night Safety Transit**
  618-453-2212

**Carbondale Resources**

- **Carbondale Police**
  618-457-3200
- **Empowerment Center**
  618-529-2324
- **Memorial Hospital**
  618-549-0721

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**Illinois Opioid Action Plan**

The United States is in the middle of the deadliest drug crisis in our history. Fueled by the growing opioid epidemic, drug overdoses have now become the leading cause of death nationwide for people under the age of 50. **There were an estimated 107,891 overdose deaths in 2021**, the highest number of overdose fatalities ever recorded in a 12-month period.

In Illinois, more than 3,000 people died of overdoses in 2021. This increase began before the COVID-19 pandemic but accelerated throughout 2020 and 2021. Beyond these deaths are thousands of emergency department visits, hospital stays, as well as the pain suffered by individuals, families, and communities. The opioid epidemic is the most significant public health and public safety crisis facing Illinois.

Polysubstance use and dangerous synthetic opioids, such as fentanyl, are responsible for an increasing number of deaths. Synthetic opioids can be thousands of times more poisonous than heroin. To save lives, it is important to reach out and to engage individuals at risk for both fatal and non-fatal overdose due to multiple drugs and to address the social inequities that underlie the racial disparities in overdose deaths.

On March 21, 2022, Governor Pritzker announced the launch of **The Statewide Overdose Action Plan**; the state’s collective call to action. The opioid crisis affects everyone in some way. Its victims are of all ages, races, and walks of life. The causes of the epidemic are complex, and state government must work with everyone — health care providers, local agencies, law enforcement, community groups, individual citizens, and national partners — toward a solution. **Prevention**: preventing the further spread of the opioid crisis

This **Overdose Action Plan** focuses on five priority recommendation categories and is the strategic framework for moving toward the goal of reducing overdose deaths in Illinois:

1. Social Equity
2. Prevention
3. Treatment and Recovery
4. Harm Reduction

Justice-Involved Populations and Public SafetyFor more information about the IL Opioid Action Plan, Opioid Overdose Response, or Treatment & Recovery, visit [https://www.dph.illinois.gov/opioids/ilplan](https://www.dph.illinois.gov/opioids/ilplan).
Veterans Day is Friday, November 11. Thank you to all who have served and who are currently serving.

The Rave Mobile Alert System

RAVE is used to send emergency text messages to cellphones and to campus email addresses of students, faculty and staff. The message may alert you to an emergency situation, including university closures and safety alerts. The system provides weather warnings, including severe thunderstorm, tornado, flash flood, and winter storm.

To receive emergency text messages, students must have current contact information in SalukiNet. For instructions on how to add or change a mobile phone number for the SIU Alerts, click Here.

With the changing climate, make sure you have an emergency kit available in both your vehicle and at home. These are items you may consider putting in your kit:

♦ Water & food
♦ Battery-powered radio & extra batteries
♦ First aid kit
♦ Flashlight
♦ Multi-purpose tool
♦ Whistle
♦ Moist towelettes
♦ Cell phone w/ charger
♦ Blankets
Preparing for the flu season during COVID-19 (coronavirus)

According to the Mayo Clinic, it’s especially important to get your flu vaccine this year, because the flu and coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) will likely be circulating at the same time and cause similar symptoms.

The flu vaccine doesn’t protect you from COVID-19. But getting a flu vaccine could reduce flu symptoms that could be confused with COVID-19 symptoms. Getting your flu vaccine can also help lessen the impact on health care providers and hospitals by reducing the number of people with severe flu and hospitalized with the flu.

Flu season runs October through May. Catching the flu can be as easy as standing in line next to someone who has flu symptoms.

It’s important to follow precautions to reduce the spread of flu and COVID-19. For example:

- Washing your hands regularly
- Avoid touching your face
- Cover your cough and sneeze.
- Avoid crowds
- Avoid anyone who is sick
- Stay home if you’re sick
- Clean high-touch surfaces often

Take other precautions to reduce your risk of COVID-19, such as practicing social distancing and wearing a cloth face mask when around people outside your household.

Flu usually comes on suddenly. People who have the flu often feel some or all of the following symptoms:

- Fever or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (tiredness)
- Vomiting and diarrhea (more common in children than adults)

More information about fighting the flu during COVID-19 can be found at mayoclinic.org/coronavirus-covid-19/flu-season-during-coronavirus.
Crime Prevention During the Holiday Season

Crimes such as burglaries and thefts tend to increase during the holiday season. In order to combat these issues, there are actions you can take to avoid becoming the victim of a crime. Always keep your doors and windows locked. Additionally, keep all personal information in a locked, fireproof safe or safety deposit box. This could include information such as birth certificates, social security cards, passports, etc. When you plan on taking a trip or leaving your home unattended, do not post your plans on social media sites or discuss your absence in public settings. While away on trips, keep lights on at your house to make it appear as though someone is home. Make sure to request a house watch from your local law enforcement agency during your absence as well.

While at school, there are actions you can take to avoid becoming the victim of a theft or burglary. First, never leave your property unattended. Even if you are studying in the library and need to take a restroom break, pack up your personal property and take it with you! Keep all doors to your dorm room locked, including the connecting bathroom doors. While you may have a great relationship with your roommates and suitemates, you may not know their guests. When you leave campus for an extended period of time (i.e. breaks), take your valuable belongings with you, such as laptops, tablets, gaming systems, etc.

The Department of Public Safety and Housing have partnered together to create a web-based form that stores information on student’s personal valuables. This is the information police officers will need to assist you in the event that you become a crime victim.

Click here for a paper version.

Newsletter ideas or topics

If you have a topic or idea you would like us to consider for a future newsletter please email the idea to Sgt. Carrie Keith at carries@dps.siu.edu. Questions submitted may also be featured in future newsletters. The person submitting the question will not be identified.