

December 12, 2023



Peek behind the scenes to see UAB's hidden jobs 📺🗣️🧐

With more than 105 square blocks and 28,000 employees, running UAB is like running a city. Discover some of the behind-the-scenes roles that keep the university humming.



What to know about the new FDA-approved treatment for sickle cell disease

Julie Kanter, M.D., director of UAB's Adult Sickle Cell Clinic, explains how Exa-cel works and why it brings "amazing, transformative improvements" for people living with the disease.



New Zealand adopts accident investigation process developed by UAB faculty

Ivan Pupulidy, Ph.D., and Crista Vesel, faculty members in the School of Engineering, designed the "Learning Review" process for the U.S. Forest Service. It has since been adopted across multiple industries and countries.

More news online

Get campus news at uab.edu/reporter and uab.edu/news. Check the [Campus Calendar](#) for more events on campus, and submit your own. If you have news you want to share, use the [Request Publicity form](#) online.

Things to know

Extension on vacation time accrual expires Dec. 31

An extension on total maximum accrual of vacation time, allowing employees to carry up to three times their annual vacation accrual, is set to expire on Dec. 31, when the total maximum accrual will revert to two times the annual accrual. Beginning Jan. 1, 2024, any excess vacation will be converted to sick time to align with HR Policy 301: Vacation. See this article for a [table listing accrual details](#) and the rationale for these changes.

Are you paid biweekly? Note this schedule change

Because January 1 and 2 are UAB designated holidays, Payroll Services will process the Jan. 5, 2024 biweekly payroll (Dec. 17-30 pay period) on a holiday schedule. UKG Campus Kronos Time Card sign-off is noon Jan. 2. Payroll Services recommends that employees and time editors do this prior to leaving for the holiday break on Dec. 30. Direct questions to payhelp2@uab.edu.

Faculty Senate meets today

Provost Pam Benoit will give her farewell address and James "Cameron" Crosby, M.D., co-medical director of UAB Employee Health, will share information for next year on international visitors, observers and TB screening. Meeting begins at 7:30 a.m.; [Zoom information online](#).

New DUO login screen coming Friday

Beginning Dec. 15, UAB's DUO two-factor authentication prompt screen will be changing to streamline the login process. The first time you log in, DUO will automatically choose the most secure login prompt — in UAB's case, the mobile app push will be the most secure option — but you can also choose your preferred method. [Details online](#).

Submit nominations for President's Diversity Champion Awards

The President's Diversity Champion Awards recognize achievements of Blazers working to develop a more culturally diverse and inclusive university community. Read the guidelines and [submit online](#) by Jan. 12, 2024.

Last chance for these opportunities to give:

🧸🧸🧸 UAB IT's 30th annual UAB Toy Drive ends today. Bring a new, unwrapped toy to an on-campus collection box or give by purchasing a toy online from [Target](#) or [Amazon](#). Either way, toys will be donated to the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots campaign and given to children in need throughout the Birmingham metro area.

🧥👖👕 The UAB Career Center's clothing drive for clean and gently-used professional attire ends tomorrow. Accepted items include suits, shirts/blouses, slacks, skirts, solid-color ties and professional shoes (closed toe). Bring donations to the Hill Student Center Guest Services desk.

Research & learning



Improving Your "Outlook" 2023 concludes next Monday

The season finale of Learning & Development's popular series on email pro tips concludes next week with a session on the "Focused Inbox" feature, offering insights into effective inbox control and the art of prioritization. Attendees can also get a wrap-up resource with best practices and shortcuts compiled from all the fall 2023 sessions. Watch all those sessions on the [series archive here](#).

🕒 11 a.m. Dec. 18
📍 virtual
📅 Register online



Aging Parent Drivers

Matt Gurwell, director of the Beyond Driving with Dignity Program, shares some key indicators of diminished driving skills and how to start the driving conversation with an aging parent.

🕒 noon Dec. 12
📍 virtual
📅 Register online

🔗📄 Get funding to research the mechanics of aging

The UAB Nathan Shock Center is soliciting pilot project research proposals in the basic biology of aging. Priority will be given to studies examining hallmarks and/or energetics of aging and ones that focus on areas of research that can be supported by the center's cores. The pilot program will provide up to \$30,000 per award. [Submission deadline is Dec. 21](#).

Next Step Webinar: Your Credit Report
Recognize which factors usually increase your credit risk, learn to read a credit report and find where you can get help and better control your credit.

🕒 9 a.m. Dec. 14
📍 virtual
📅 Register online

Annual UAB COERE Methods Symposium
Centered around the theme of implementation science, this half-day event features presentations by national thought leaders and UAB scholars in the field.

🕒 8:30 a.m. Jan. 18
📍 Lister Hill Library, 4th floor or virtual
📅 Register online

Mark your calendars



Bartow Holiday Party 🏀

UAB Men's Basketball Coach Andy Kennedy invites all UAB employees and Blazer fans to attend the Bartow Holiday Party at the team's game vs. Drake.

🕒 2 p.m. Dec. 22
📍 Bartow Arena
📅 Buy tickets



Mutts Gone Nuts 🐕

Some of the world's most talented four-legged performers unleash havoc and hilarity in a breathtaking, action-packed comedy spectacular.

🕒 3 p.m. Jan. 7
📍 ASC Jemison Concert Hall
📅 Buy tickets



Cup of Ambition ☕

Jill Marlar and James Little, the married couple who co-own Filter Coffee Parlor in Birmingham, are ready to share what they've learned as small business owners.

🕒 7 p.m. Jan. 11
📍 virtual
📅 Register online

One more thing



The ideal gift for an aging loved one? Your time.

"Time is the scarcest non-renewable resource around, so experiences — especially with people we love — help us to savor it," said Christina Pierpaoli Parker, Ph.D., a clinical psychologist and assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurobiology. Parker offers advice on how to share time together over the holidays in this story.