Georgia Highlands College
Severe Weather Policies and Procedures

The President’s Office of Georgia Highlands College will make decisions about delays or closings during severe weather events and emergencies. After conferring with all campus deans about conditions at each instructional site/campus, the president will decide, by site, to stay open, to close or to delay opening. The College Relations department will post notices via GHC Notify (details below), the home page of the GHC website (www.highlands.edu), and on Channel 11 (NBC), Atlanta. After these initial notifications, the news may also appear on Facebook, Twitter, local newspaper websites and local radio. These media are not as reliable as GHC Notify, however, so the most reliable source for the latest information is a GHC source.

If the weather event occurs during the night, we will post information by 5:50 – 6 a.m. the following morning. If the event occurs during the school day, we will post immediately upon making a decision. Please note that different sites/campuses may not have the same message. For example, Douglasville may be closed while Floyd is open and Cartersville delayed until 11 a.m., so be sure to check for information about the site where you take classes.

The GHC Notify system is used as part of GHC’s emergency notification system. This is an opt-in system available to all faculty, staff and students. Subscription to this service is free; however, standard text messaging rates apply depending on your plan.

When signing up for GHC Notify you can choose from the following options:

• Emergency
• Weather (Alerts – Campus Closings)
• General Announcements

You may also choose the campus or campuses for which you wish to receive alerts. Additionally, you may also choose from a variety of delivery options:

• Voice (You may select multiple numbers to be notified – home, cell, work)
• SMS/Text
• Email

You must choose to sign up for GHC Notify in order to receive these alerts. At any time you can change or discontinue your participation in this service. Please visit www.highlands.edu/connect and click the GHC Notify link on the left to sign up or manage your profile.