

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** March 6, 2020

**TO:** Campus Community

**FROM:** Thomas A. Parham, Ph.D.  
President

**SUBJECT:** Campus Update on Coronavirus



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Understanding that recent news regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) may cause concern and uncertainty, we want to assure the Toro community that the safety and well-being of everyone who studies, works, or visits our campus is a top priority, and that we take this potential health risk very seriously.

### **Current Risk Level at CSUDH**

The university has had no reported or suspected cases of COVID-19. According to LA County Public Health, the immediate risk of exposure to the general public in the county remains low despite [local state of emergency declarations](#).

**NOTE:** According to the CDC, most people who contract COVID-19 will experience mild to moderate illness and then recover. Those most at risk for developing a more serious illness include the elderly, and people with other underlying health conditions, such as heart disease, lung disease, and diabetes.

### **What CSUDH is Doing**

Staff in our Student Health Center and Risk Management office routinely monitor official health updates about the virus and are in contact with individuals at LA County Public Health. In addition, we have convened a special planning team to review and ready the campus. Everything is on the table, from custodial protocols that we can implement now to instruction via virtual classrooms, should the need arise. We also are working closely with the Chancellor's Office, which is coordinating systemwide preparations.

At this time, we see no need to modify campus operations; all classes and events will continue as planned. We will follow guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and local health officials in making any decisions.

### **Travel Advisory**

The Chancellor's Office is directing all faculty, staff, and students to temporarily avoid all non-essential university-related travel to countries that are designated with a CDC Warning-Level 3 Travel Notice. In addition to banned travel to China, this now includes South Korea, Italy, and Iran. The CSU also recommends that students and university employees on state business avoid non-essential travel to countries in Asia and Europe where the CDC has identified that sustained transmission of COVID-19 has transpired, or where the virus has spread.

CSUDH is complying with this directive and has called back all students in university-sanctioned study abroad programs in these areas.

### **Steps to Staying Healthy**

As a reminder, practicing good personal hygiene is the best defense against COVID-19 and other flu-like illnesses. Please follow these preventive steps recommended by the CDC:

- Stay home if you have respiratory or influenza-like symptoms – fever, cough, shortness of breath—and call your doctor or Student Health Center (310-243-3629) for medical guidance before visiting either facility.
- Limit close contact with individuals who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - If you are unable to wash your hands, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
  - Use your sleeve if a tissue is not available; avoid using your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

### **Be Considerate of Others**

You may see people on campus wearing face masks. Although the CDC does not recommend the use of face masks for people who are well, please remember that it is a social norm in many countries to wear a face mask during cold and flu season. Do not assume that a person wearing a face mask is infectious, or that they should be avoided.

Treating all members of our community with respect and consideration is as important now as at any other time.

### **Update Emergency Contact Info**

Now is the perfect time to review and update contact information on ToroAlert, the university's emergency notification system. In the event of a campus emergency, ToroAlert will send notifications to the devices provided. Login to your [my.CSUDH](#) portal and click "Toro Alert (Update Contact)" under the "My Personal Info" tab.

### **Campus Updates and Resources**

If circumstances change that affects the normal operation of the university, we will alert the campus community. For your convenience, we have established a web page, [www.csudh.edu/alert](http://www.csudh.edu/alert), as a quick reference to the latest, accurate information.

Lastly, we recognize that this is a stressful situation for many members of our community. Please know that there are campus resources available to support you:

[Student Health & Psychological Services](#)

[Employee Assistance Program](#)

[Dean of Student Affairs](#)