

Dear Spartan Families,

As students return to campus from spring break and federal guidance on responding to the new coronavirus (COVID-19) is updated frequently, we understand your concern and desire to know what MSU is doing to keep your child safe and educated. We are concerned about the well-being of all of our students and want to ensure we are providing both them and you with all the information we have available.

MSU COVID-19 Task Force

MSU has established a COVID-19 Task Force to address the challenges associated with the outbreak, using broad guidance from Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the U.S. State Department, and local public health agencies to develop and adopt policies and procedures. To stay up to date on what evolves at MSU in regard to COVID-19, visit msu.edu/coronavirus.

Travel

While it still remains that there are zero confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Michigan and no suspected cases on campus, it's important you stay informed. To that end, we want to update you on the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as it relates to international travel.

Late Wednesday, the CDC issued guidance recommending anyone who has traveled to one of the four countries under a Travel-3 Health Notice (China, Iran, Italy, and South Korea) to practice social distancing for 14 days after returning to the U.S.

For those who are returning or have already returned from travel in these areas, there are a few steps the CDC says they should take to monitor their health and practice social distancing:

1. Take your temperature with a thermometer two times a day and monitor for fever. Also watch for a cough or trouble breathing.
2. Stay home and avoid contact with others. Do not go to work or school for this 14-day period. Discuss your work situation with your employer before returning to work.
3. Do not take public transportation, taxis or ride-shares during this time.
4. Avoid crowded places (such as shopping centers and movie theaters) and limit your activities in public.
5. Keep your distance from others (about 6 feet or 2 meters).

If travelers have visited any of these affected areas during the past 14 days and feel sick with a fever (100.4°F/38°C or higher) or cough or have trouble breathing:

- Seek medical care. Call ahead before you go to a medical office or emergency room.
- Tell your doctor or provider about your recent travel and your symptoms.
- Avoid contact with others.

To ensure a seamless educational experience for all Spartans, MSU is prepared to support any student following CDC guidelines for social distancing and self-monitoring with the university's well-established medical accommodation policies to ensure medical and academic needs of all students are met. Students can request these supports by contacting their academic advisors.

Additionally, Residential and Hospitality Services will make room and board accommodations available for students who have traveled to the affected areas and need separate housing to complete their self-isolation. Those needing special accommodations should contact MSU Live On at 517-884-1783.

Students, Education Abroad, and International Internships/Jobs

MSU is working with Spartans who may not be able to travel home this summer due to COVID-19. Plans are being made to provide necessary support and resources, including summer housing, counseling services, immigration assistance, and employment opportunities.

Students participating in education abroad programs should monitor their email for updates. Program fee refunds are being determined for programs that have been suspended and will be communicated directly to students.

MSU has suspended **spring semester programs in Italy**. All **spring and summer education abroad programs** have been suspended in the following areas:

- Mainland China
- Hong Kong
- Singapore
- South Korea

If your child has accepted an international job or internship in an area affected by COVID-19, they should stay in contact with their future employer regarding any possible changes in start date. Students receiving academic credit for the experience should also work with their academic advisor. [Career Services Network](#) can provide additional guidance or support if needed.

Campus Attention to Cleaning

As you are aware, washing hands and cleaning commonly touched areas are important in efforts to stop the spread of any virus, including COVID-19. We want you to know that, as is normal practice during influenza season, Residential and Hospitality Services continues to sanitize common area touchpoints in their areas on campus every half hour. In addition, MSU Infrastructure Planning and Facilities Custodial Services has made the switch from general use cleaners to germicidal disinfectant for touchpoint cleaning.

Stay Informed

Along with visiting msu.edu/coronavirus, which is updated frequently with real-time information, we encourage you to subscribe to our NIXLE channel to receive MSU ALERT notifications. To do so, text MSUALERT to 888777. *Message and data rates may apply.*

The following resources are also available in support of you and your child:

- Visit our [Parents Resource Center](#) website.
- [Student Affairs and Services](#) is your partner in supporting students at MSU and is available to respond to any questions or concerns you may have. You may email the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Services at studentaffairs@msu.edu.

We hope this information is helpful for you and your child.

Sincerely,

Denise B. Maybank

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