

From: Carol Osborn <cosborn@adams.edu>
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Subject: COVID-19 CAMPUS UPDATE/PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Adams State Campus Community,

With the health and well being of all campus members our highest priority, I wanted to update you on how Adams State is responding to COVID-19, or the new coronavirus. To date, there have been no cases reported on campus or in the San Luis Valley, and Adams State continues to operate normally.

As you know, on Tuesday Gov. Polis declared a state of emergency for Colorado. The governor's state of emergency declaration does not impact the Adams State campus; however, it does make federal dollars and federal resources more readily available to the state should Colorado request or need additional federal support.

We also are aware that at 5 p.m. Wednesday the governor will hold another press conference to update the status of COVID-19 in Colorado. We anticipate the governor will provide guidelines for higher education institutions in the state.

It should also be noted that testing is just beginning and we can expect to hear about more cases in Colorado and across the country. Any contingency plans directly impacting Adams State will be communicated to you directly through email notices and through the Campus Alert System.

If you are not signed up to receive campus alerts, please sign up here:
<https://www.adams.edu/police/safety/coronavirus/>. Adams State's COVID-19 resource page will also have the most up-to-date information, including any impacts to campus.

The executive management team is working on contingency plans in the event COVID-19 impacts the campus. Those plans include determining our capacity to continue instruction through the use of our course management system Blackboard, which Vice President for Academic Affairs Kent Buchanan is spearheading. The continuity of instruction for our students is mission-critical for Adams State. More information will be made available should we need to fully deploy Blackboard as our instructional venue.

It is important to repeat, however, that as of today it is business-as-usual for Adams State and the campus has not been impacted by COVID-19 at this time.

The best prevention for COVID-19 continues to be what we should practice every year during flu season: wash your hands often, cough into your elbow, avoid touching your face and stay home if you're sick. Adams State's custodial staff is increasing its cleaning operations across campus to help prevent the spread of illnesses and will continue to be diligent in thoroughly cleaning the campus during the upcoming Spring Break.

As we approach Spring Break, we urge students, staff, and faculty to closely follow all travel alerts and strongly discourage travel to areas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have identified as Level 2 or 3 risks (Italy, China, Iran, South Korea, Japan.) Travel alerts may also change quickly and we encourage all campus members to be flexible in their plans.

If you do travel to an area identified on high alert or a neighboring country to those considered high risk, please keep in mind your travel plans may be disrupted and re-entry to the U.S. may be delayed due to travel warnings from the U.S. Department of State. We ask you to use extreme caution so you don't put yourself or the Adams State campus community at risk.

If you know you've been exposed or if you exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 virus, students should immediately notify Vice President for Student Affairs Ken Marquez before returning to campus, and faculty and staff should immediately notify Tracy Rogers in Human Resources. Ken's contact information is 719-587-7221 or klmarque@adams.edu; Tracy's contact information is 719-587-7990 or tracy_rogers@adams.edu.

For our student-athletes, we understand the NCAA continues to assess how COVID-19 might impact athletic competitions in regularly scheduled events as well as with upcoming tournaments. The NCAA has not made any decision to limit competitions at this point. We will continue to monitor any decisions the NCAA and our specific athletic conference RMAC will make over the coming days and weeks. We will keep everyone informed as we learn of NCAA or RMAC recommendations.

As the COVID-19 situation evolves, please anticipate further updates, possibly on a daily basis. Thank you, and please have a safe Spring Break.

President Lovell