

March 11, 2020

Good Afternoon:

Governor Whitmer just spoke to college presidents via teleconference to apprise us of the latest information regarding the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak. The Executive Cabinet and I have also been monitoring the virus's spread and CDC recommendations.

We knew it was a matter of time until Michigan would be affected. Unfortunately yesterday, two presumptive cases of COVID-19 were identified in Michigan. Currently, there have not been any cases identified in Genesee County, and the Genesee County Health Department is actively testing for the virus.

Things I need you to know:

I will be sending out an update daily. Please remember, things are happening very fast and, as the Governor said, we will take actions based on fact.

A College-wide plan will be shared on Friday in the President's Office Weekly Communication.

In the meantime, I have made the decision to suspend all College international travel through the month of April and only allow College domestic travel if deemed essential by the respective EC member.

We will cancel all meetings, sporting events, and/or gatherings that will attract 100 people or more through the end of April.

All employees who have traveled to a Level 2 or Level 3 country (Japan, China, South Korea, Iran, and Italy) in the last 14 days should self-report to their EC member and self-quarantine for a recommended period of 14 days consistent with CDC and State of Michigan guidelines.

Additionally, if you or a household member believe you have been exposed to anyone who has traveled to any of the countries listed above, you should self-report to your EC member to determine the best course of action, which may include self-quarantine.

If you plan personal travel to a Level 2 or Level 3 country, or to another state that has declared a state of emergency, you are asked to self-report this travel to your EC member in order to coordinate any impact.

The safety and health of our students, faculty and staff are of utmost importance at all times. The situation is being closely monitored. MCC is also working in conjunction with public health officials and medical professionals and will follow their expert recommendations to best ensure the safety of the College community. For more information visit www.michigan.gov/coronavirus or www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

Local and federal health authorities indicate that the best ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are the same recommendations for preventing the spread of the flu virus. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to use the following preventative hygiene practices:

- Remain home if you are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are unavailable.
- Cover cough with a tissue or sleeve if a tissue is unavailable.
- Routinely clean surfaces that you frequently touch.

If you are not feeling well, I urge you to stay home and get better, or arrange with your manager to work from home. I also strongly encourage all managers to be flexible with employee schedules, and as appropriate, support the ability for employees to feel they can stay home or work from home.

Please see the attached HelpNet document for more information about COVID-19.

Looking forward,

Dr. Beverly