

Health Advisory Regarding 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

Dear Students, Faculty, & Staff:

The health and well-being of the College community is our highest priority, as evidenced by the thoughtful, proactive contributions from across campus to our preparation efforts for coronavirus/COVID-19. This situation is a dynamic one and we expect to continue sending updates as we have them.

Importantly, there are no confirmed cases of coronavirus/COVID-19 on our campus.

Emergency Communications for All

<u>Update Your Cell Phone Information</u>. In order to ensure our ability to communicate to all via text message updates, please take a moment to update your cell phone and emergency contact information on Campus Web, via gbcALERT. This is accessible under the "Quick Links" tab on the left-hand side of Campus Web.

Individuals with a Chronic Health Condition or Compromised Immune Systems

Based on <u>CDC guidance</u>, we advise that anyone who has a chronic health condition, is immunocompromised, or on medication that may weaken the immune system, consider limiting time on-campus until further notice. Social distancing is challenging in a College environment, especially in the residence halls. If you are unsure if you are in one of these categories, please consult with your primary care provider.

For students who choose not to return to campus for health reasons including possible exposure to COVID-19 or displaying symptoms related to COVID-19, please contact your advisor via email.

For employees who choose not to return to campus for health reasons including possible exposure to COVID-19 or displaying symptoms of COVID-19, please contact your direct supervisor.

College Sponsored Travel

All College sponsored travel is subject to Executive Council approval.

Possible Exposure Procedure for Students

If you are concerned that you may have been exposed to COVID-19:

If you are a Resident Student:

- Stay in your room, and contact the Office of Residence Life for further assistance.
- Monitor your temperature twice daily.
- Immediately report fever, cough, or shortness of breath to your local health department and health care provider. Call ahead to the healthcare facility before you arrive seeking medical care.

If you are a Commuter Student:

- Do not return to campus.
- Monitor your temperature twice daily.
- Immediately report fever, cough, or shortness of breath to your local health department and health care provider. Call ahead to the healthcare facility before you arrive seeking medical care.

Information for Employees

- If you should need to be absent from work due to coronavirus, for any reason, whether for yourself or a family member, please report this absence to your direct supervisor.
- Please consult your personal health care provider with questions regarding your health.
- In addition to frequent hand-washing, consider ways you can pitch in to keep workspaces clean. Our maintenance staff is taking extra steps to enhance cleaning, but we encourage you to wipe down conference, kitchen, and shared work-spaces after use.
- Begin planning for telework with your supervisor by identifying projects that you can work on at home should you need to take an unexpected leave of absence, and whether any specific tasks will require VPN access.

Expectations for Non-Discrimination

We understand that some members of our community are from or have connections to places with confirmed cases of COVID-19. We lend our sincere support to all especially those who may be far from home and experiencing distress about the well-being of their loved ones.

As a community, Goldey-Beacom College is committed to being a diverse and inclusive community and supports all members of the College community who are from or have connections to anywhere that has confirmed cases of COVID-19. As a community, we must not allow fear to threaten our commitment to embracing diversity on our campus. Bias based conduct, targeting people based on perceptions about identity or beliefs creates barriers to inclusion, access, and trust. It affects not only the targeted individual or group, but adversely affects our entire College community. Biased behaviors, stereotyping, and discrimination are not tolerated at Goldey-Beacom College. As a higher education institution, we set a high bar: to educate and care for the whole person, across all diversity and aspects of identity. Those who experience harassment or discrimination on campus can contact the Dean of Students, Chuck Hammond.

Thank you for your continued attention to College communications during this critical time.

2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

If you have recent travel to China and are experiencing symptoms mentioned below, call ahead to your health care provider.

What is it?

- A new respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, China
- It has the potential to cause severe illness and pneumonia in some people





- Through the the air by coughing and sneezing
- Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes

How is it spread?

Who is at risk?

- Travelers to and from certain areas of China are at increased risk as are their close contacts
- Current risk to the general public is low
- See travel guidance from the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention at <u>wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel</u>

What are the symptoms?

Illnesses can be mild, or in some cases be severe enough to require hospitalization. Symptoms of this respiratory illness primarily include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath





How is it prevented and treated?

- Similar to prevention of other respiratory illnesses, including the flu:
 Wash hands often
 - Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
 Avoid context with circle papels
 - ⊖ Avoid contact with sick people
 - $\ensuremath{\scriptscriptstyle\ominus}$ Stay home while you are sick; avoid others
 - ⊖ Cover mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing
- Most people with mild coronavirus illness will recover on their own by drinking plenty of fluids, resting, and taking pain and fever medications



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES Division of Public Health For more information, visit <u>dhss.delaware/gov/dph</u>. Call 302-744-4990 to speak to an epidemiologist during normal business hours. After normal business hours, call 1-888-295-5156.



of origin. This guidance is based only on a person's travel history.

GUIDANCE FOR RETURNING TRAVELERS

As of February 3, all travelers returning from **Hubei Province in China**, and symptomatic people returning from mainland China, will be quarantined for 14 days near a U.S. airport of entry, per federal orders.

If you have returned from a country identified by the CDC as a Geographic Area with Sustained Transmission (Travel Alert 2 or 3) in the last **14 days** and:

 have fever, cough and/or shortness of breath, contact the Division of Public Health at 1-866-408-1899 to discuss next steps. Those who need to call 9-1-1 for a medical emergency should advise dispatchers of your recent travel and symptoms.

 do not have fever, cough and/or shortness of breath, contact the Division of Public Health call center at 1-866-408-1899 for instructions on self-monitoring for symptoms.

For a list of countries included in the travel alerts, visit <u>cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html</u>. Asymptomatic returning travelers are asked to stay at home (no work, school, attending public gatherings) during this 14-day period. If a returning traveler develops symptoms during the 14-day period, and there is no medical emergency, they should contact DPH instead of calling 9-1-1 or visiting a walk-in or urgent care facility.



For more information, visit <u>de.gov/coronavirus</u> Call 1-866-408-1899 to speak to an operator at the DPH call center during normal business hours. Email <u>dphcall@delaware.gov</u>

Goldey-Beacom College will continue to monitor this situation and provide updates when they become available. If you have any concerns, please contact Student Affairs at (302)225-6332.

Chuck Hammond

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