

March 11, 2020

Important Information on COVID-19

Dear Campus Communities,

As coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) continues to make headlines and impact Wisconsin and areas around the world, Moraine Park is taking precautions to ensure a safe and healthy working and learning environment. The health and safety of employees and students is a priority at Moraine Park.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a virus strain that began spreading in December. Moraine Park is following [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#) and [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) recommendations and guidelines to guide decision-making. According to the CDC, coronavirus symptoms include: fever, cough and shortness of breath.

At this time, the risk to the Moraine Park community is low. While there is not a need for alarm or worry, situational awareness and vigilance are keys to staying healthy.

Moraine Park leaders are committed to communicating important information about coronavirus and its developments as appropriate—via email, the student and employee portals, and if necessary through our [MPTC Alert System](#) (please sign up if you have not already!). A Response Team has been activated to ensure quick decision-making if necessary. Additionally, cleaning and sanitization efforts have been increased across our campuses.

The campus community should be diligent in staying home if ill. Should you experience any symptoms, please call your health care provider immediately. Do not go directly to your health care office or hospital. Your health care provider will let you know how to proceed. Employees should communicate with supervisors regarding symptoms and absence from work while students should communicate with instructors.

- A [website with information on COVID-19 and seasonal flu](#) has been developed as a resource.

There is currently not a vaccine to prevent coronavirus (COVID-19), but the CDC suggests the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed and recommends the following preventative actions:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

The [CDC recently posted information](#) for travelers, including self-quarantine advisories, in areas heavily impacted by coronavirus, which is important to note if traveling. The latest guidance indicates travelers returning or arriving from countries with a CDC Level 3 [Travel Health Notice](#) related to coronavirus [voluntarily self-quarantine](#) for 14 days and that those returning from a Level 2 country self-monitor and limit interactions with others for 14 days upon arrival into the United States.

Effective immediately—and through the end of April, **student and employee College-related international travel is not permitted and should be canceled. Student and employee College-related, non-essential, out-of-state, domestic travel is also not permitted and should be canceled. Additionally, no international or domestic College-related travel should be scheduled until further notice.** Personal international travel is also strongly discouraged. Employees and students who choose to travel should take into account the possibility of travel delays and the potential need for self-isolation upon return.

Information related to coronavirus is developing quickly. Moraine Park is committed to keeping you safe by monitoring local, state and national resources to determine what is best for our campus communities and those we serve. Updates will be provided frequently.

Take care,
Bonnie