

Stevenson University COVID-19 Preparedness Information

Dear Stevenson Students, Faculty, and Staff:

I am writing on behalf of our senior leadership team to update you regarding Stevenson's preparedness planning for the 2019 Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The health and safety of our community is our top priority, and the university is closely monitoring information and updates provided by the national [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) and the [Maryland Department of Health](#). At this time, there are no cases on our campus and there are no confirmed cases in the State of Maryland.

What follows is information and measures with which you should familiarize yourself as we prepare for any potential outbreak of COVID-19 in our region. We have established a [COVID-19 information page on our web site](#) where we will post updates from Stevenson and helpful links from the CDC, state, and local health departments as we continue to monitor this outbreak.

Personal Hygiene and Self-Care Tips

COVID-19 is a specialized strain of Coronavirus, a family of viruses that includes the common cold. As during any active cold and flu season, there are some basic hygiene and preventive measures you can take in your daily routine. The CDC recommends the following basic steps:

- Keeping immunizations up to date, including getting an annual flu shot.
- Washing 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% alcohol.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Covering coughs and sneezes with tissues, then throwing tissues in the trash.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces with regular household cleaning sprays or wipes.
- Staying home when you are sick.

In addition, Stevenson is implementing the use of hospital-grade disinfectants as part of our routine campus cleaning, and the SU Wellness Center has enhanced its precautions for screening students during this cold and flu season. Students can address any health questions or concerns they may have to the SU Wellness Center at 443-352-4200.

Students and Employees Traveling and Returning from Abroad

The university is monitoring CDC and State Department travel advisories as they relate to locations where students are studying abroad. Because Italy has been designated a Level 3 risk by the CDC (and some areas in Italy are at Level 4), the "SU In" program in Florence has been

suspended, and the four students enrolled in this program have been directed to return to the United States. The Provost's Office is working with our partner in Italy to develop options for ensuring that the students can continue their studies this semester.

We are asking all students, faculty, or staff returning from international travel to contact the appropriate office before returning to campus. Students should contact the SU Wellness Center at 443-352-4200, and employees should contact their supervisor and the Office of Human Resources at 443-334-2202.

In addition, students, faculty, or staff who are returning from countries with increasing burden or community transmission of Coronavirus/COVID-19 are required to follow a 14-day home quarantine protocol before returning to campus. Please contact the university offices cited above to learn about home quarantine procedures. As of today, the referenced countries include China, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Italy, and Iran. Please bear in mind that this list could expand in the coming weeks and months.

Near-Term and Spring Break Travel

Stevenson has suspended upcoming university-related student travel to or through any country that is under a CDC Level 1, 2, or 3 risk advisory. For this reason, we have canceled two international trips planned for Spring Break (Italy and Germany).

If you plan to travel in the near future, please consider the potential risks that may be involved in visiting your destination, as well as the possibility of quarantine upon return. We strongly advise not traveling to regions designated Level 3 or above. In this context, please keep in mind that CDC guidance may change after you have arrived at your destination. Updated CDC information for travelers can be found on [this CDC website](#).

On behalf of our senior leaders, I wish to express our appreciation to all of the members of our campus community who are supporting COVID-19 preparedness. Thank you all for your efforts to keep our campus safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Elliot Hirshman, President