

Dear International Students from China,

Last Friday, you received an email from EMU President Smith about the recent Novel Coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, China. We want to reinforce to you that the University is closely monitoring this outbreak and is following the recommendations of the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), as well as the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#).

Health officials and administrators throughout the University will continue to work closely with the [Washtenaw County Health Department](#) to prepare for, screen and prevent the spread of illness. As this situation continues to develop, we will provide updates and information to help you stay healthy.

We wanted to reassure you that Eastern Michigan University has systems in place to monitor, identify and respond swiftly to any potential case of coronavirus. For now, it is important to know when and how to access care:

- If you have traveled from China or a surrounding Asian country — or have been in contact with someone who has — within the past 14 days and you subsequently develop a cough, fever greater than 100.4 degrees and shortness of breath, you will need to seek medical attention.
- Call the [IHA Health Center @ EMU](#) at [734.896.4110](#) to speak to medical personnel who can assess and guide your next steps.

Because we are also at the height of the influenza season, here are some tips to decrease your risk of contracting influenza of which we are seeing many active cases:

- Get vaccinated against influenza! It is not too late. As in other years, the coverage is not 100 percent effective, but it can reduce symptoms for those who do become infected and decrease the risk of severe complications. Your flu shot is covered by the [EMU Student Insurance policy](#).
- Wash your hands frequently for 20 seconds or more with soapy water and don't touch your face.
- If you are sick, do not go to classes, cover your cough and seek help, especially with severe symptoms or if you are at high risk for complications due to such conditions as asthma or diabetes.
- Avoid sharing anything that has come in contact with saliva, whether in your living or social environments.
- Cough and sneeze into a tissue or your elbow.
- Get adequate sleep and eat well-balanced meals to ensure a healthy immune system.

We recognize that many of our students and employees are natives of China and/or have family and friends in the country and may be concerned about their well-being. Please know that the University community supports and cares about you, and we send our best wishes for the health of your loved ones.

Two offices on campus, in particular, can serve as helpful resources should you find yourself in need of support. You may call [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](tel:734.487.1118) at [734.487.1118](tel:734.487.1118) if you would like to speak to a counselor. For other assistance, consider talking with a staff member at the [Office for International Students and Scholars \(OISS\)](tel:734.487.3116) at [734.487.3116](tel:734.487.3116) or by stopping in the Office at 240 Student Center.

Sincerely,

Ellen Gold
Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students

Esther Gunel
Director of the Office for International Students and Scholars

2/4/2020