



University of Idaho

TO: University of Idaho Students, Faculty and Staff
FROM: Blaine Eckles, Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
DATE: Feb. 28, 2020
SUBJECT: Coronavirus Risk Low, But Being Monitored

Your health and safety are important. The coronavirus outbreak in China (and other locations around the globe) may be causing you concern and anxiety, especially if you have family and/or friends impacted by this outbreak or if you will soon be traveling. The University of Idaho is following reports of the outbreak of the respiratory illness and regularly assessing the risk as it pertains to the university. No cases have been reported in Idaho. For the most recent information on the situation, please visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) website](#).

The University of Idaho has an Infectious Disease Response Team that is up to date regarding this situation. Should an individual with more immediate ties to the university contract the virus, the team will convene to implement steps outlined in the [Infectious Disease Response Protocol](#).

As we approach Spring Break, you may be traveling away from Idaho. Understanding simple, yet important, hygiene practices can prevent the spread of viruses and disease. Here are

everyday actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses:

- Wash your hands often, using soap and water, for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands;
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- Stay home when you are sick;
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash;
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

View updates periodically before and during travel, as the situation is evolving. The most up-to-date information can be found on the [CDC website](#).

Campus resources are available to help navigate your concerns, practice self-care and/or provide assistance to others who may have concerns about the virus.

Talk to staff in the International Programs Office (IPO)

- IPO may be able to answer questions regarding international travel and other federal rules governing the coronavirus situation.
- Aryn Baxter, executive director of IPO, can be contacted at 208-885-1180, at abaxter@uidaho.edu or in LLC No. 3.
- Dana Brolley, director of International Services, can be contacted at 208-885-8945, at danab@uidaho.edu or in LLC No. 3.

Visit the Vandal Health Clinic

- The Vandal Health Clinic can assist you with concerns about your health. This is an option for employees, as well as students, and is readily accessible on the Moscow campus. The Vandal Health Clinic takes walk-ins, but you can also schedule an appointment by calling 208-885-6693. The clinic is located in the center of campus at 831 Ash St., just east from the Idaho Student Union Building. Visit [Student Health](#) for additional information.

File a VandalCARE Report

- VandalCARE reports provide an opportunity for you to notify the Dean of Students Office if you believe a campus community member is in distress or displaying concerning behavior. [You can file a report](#) of concern about someone you know or even for yourself.

While the coronavirus is not directly impacting any of our statewide locations, influenza has been reported in the Moscow community and around the state. Please use the same tips for hygiene above for any illness. If you have concerns about class attendance or work, please reach out and communicate directly to your professor or supervisor.

We care about the health and wellbeing of all students, faculty and staff and will communicate if the threat to any of our university locations changes. Please take care of yourself and enjoy Spring Break.

As always, Go Vandals!

Blaine Eckles

Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students

deanofstudents@uidaho.edu

uidaho.edu/dean-of-students

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