

March 13, 2020

Office of the President

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Dear parents and families of Indiana State University students,

During this time of disruption at ISU and around the world, I want to reassure you that Indiana State University officials, in coordination with public health agencies, will continue to prepare diligently for all scenarios related to coronavirus (COVID-19). The safety of your student, along with that of faculty and staff, is always our highest priority. Check ISU's <a href="covid-19 webpage">covid-19 webpage</a> for information. It is updated frequently.

Yesterday I announced that, while there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 at ISU or Vigo County, the university would move to online-only instruction starting Monday, March 16. One week of spring break starts Monday, March 23. That will be followed by two more weeks of online-only instruction.

During this time, the university remains open. Staff will continue working. Faculty will continue teaching, except for spring break, and students are expected to fulfill their academic responsibilities.

University leadership asks that you have a serious conversation with your student about doing their online instruction at your residence. We understand that some students might not have access to the internet at your residence. If possible, though, we strongly encourage students to complete their online academic responsibilities off campus. Public health officials are unanimous in saying that "social distancing," along with staying away from large gatherings of people, is a vital step in helping prevent the virus from spreading.

If students plan to travel during spring break, we've encouraged them to follow the <u>American College Health Association</u>'s advice that "all travelers should thoroughly research their destinations."

We know students and parents may have other questions, which is why we've posted a Q&A online.

We understand this situation will create difficulties for many people. We'll work through it together in the Sycamore spirit of cooperation, support, and unity. In what we hope will be a short period of time, everyone will return to ISU and our beautiful campus will have its usual energy.

We are a family!

Sincerely,

Deborah J. Curtis, Ph.D.

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President