

# Message from the President

Dear Indiana State University Community:

Today, we learned about the first confirmed case of COVID-19 connected to Indiana State University. The person was last on campus March 12 and then returned home, out of state. The person began displaying symptoms on March 18. The person was tested and the diagnosis confirmed on March 20. This person is in isolation at home and doing well. We wish this member of our ISU family a speedy recovery.

In accordance with standard public health practice, the person's local health department authorities are in charge of investigating and notifying people who had close contact with the infected person. Privacy laws limit what ISU is allowed to disclose. Even if you believe you can identify the person, we ask that you please respect the person's privacy.

It is understandable that this news would create concern and anxiety among students, parents, and the rest of our campus community. The health and safety of our campus community is always ISU's highest priority. The university has prepared for this moment for several weeks — in addition to an emergency plan that is always in place and updated annually.

The best source for information about ISU and COVID-19 is the official university webpage: [indstate.edu/covid-19](https://indstate.edu/covid-19). It will have the latest information and resources.

Gov. Holcomb today asked Hoosiers to stay home, except for essential errands and work. He specifically mentioned, however, that university personnel making online instruction possible may continue to work as long as they practice social distancing. ISU is still operating and, starting March 30, after spring break, online instruction continues through the end of the semester.

Please practice the [safety guidelines](#) recommended by the Centers for Disease Control: Wash your hands often. Practice social distancing. Stay home if you are sick. Cover your mouth for coughs and sneezes. Disinfect tabletops, doorknobs, and handrails. Wear a facemask if you are sick. If you are not sick, you do not need to wear a facemask.

The extent to which this pandemic has changed our lives is difficult but it is not insurmountable. This is temporary. Students, keep on top of your classwork.

Sycamores family, we will stay strong!



Deborah J. Curtis, Ph.D.  
President

