



ACADEMY OF MUSIC  
LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY

## Coronavirus and Lawrence

Below, please review the update on coronavirus and Lawrence University from Christopher D. Card, Lawrence University's Vice President for Student Life and Crisis Management Team Chair:

As many of you have heard, the United States federal government declared the 2019 novel coronavirus (or 2019-nCon) a public health emergency in the United States and instituted travel restrictions that affect travel to and from China. I write today to update our campus community on the coronavirus, including guidelines to prevent the spread of viruses and available campus resources. On February 5, 2020, public health officials advised that there is one confirmed case of the coronavirus in Wisconsin. The patient had travelled recently to China and has been quarantined. **We have no suspected or confirmed cases at Lawrence.**

Public health officials have advised that our community remains at low risk for exposure and recommend the following practices as the best ways to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including influenza and other common winter ailments:

- Wash your hands often with 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 or away from public areas when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or the inside of your elbow. Immediately throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Get a flu vaccine if you have not yet done so.

Self-Care tips for respiratory illnesses may be found here:

<https://www.lawrence.edu/students/wellness/health/common-questions-and-answers>

### **Center for Disease Control Coronavirus Guidance**

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) only considers people at risk for coronavirus if they:

1. Are experiencing fever AND symptoms of lower respiratory illness (such as cough, shortness of breath)

**AND** in the last 14 days, before experiencing symptoms:

- Have a history of travel from Wuhan City, China **OR**
  - Close contact with a person who is under investigation for 2019 nCoV while that person was ill.
2. Are experiencing fever OR symptoms of lower respiratory illness (such as cough, shortness of breath) AND have had close contact with an ill person with a laboratory confirmed 2019 nCoV diagnosis.

The CDC is closely monitoring the outbreak caused by this virus and, regarding campus events, advises: “[c]urrently, there is no basis for changing business as usual regarding housing, campus events, and other circumstances under which large groups of people will be gathering. There is no indication for use of masks by the general public at this time.” **Please be assured that Lawrence community members' activities may not be restricted based on perceived national origin, race, or travel history.**

For more information please visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

The Crisis Management Team and Health Center continue to closely monitor the situation while following guidance from public health professionals regarding the coronavirus and will share information with the community as needed.