

Dear RMU students, faculty and staff,

This week the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advised communities, businesses, schools, and other organizations to make preparations in the event of a widespread outbreak of the coronavirus in the United States. Although no suspected cases have been reported at Robert Morris University or in the Pittsburgh region to date, the university has been monitoring the spread of the illness worldwide for several weeks and is taking steps to safeguard the health and safety of the campus community.

Out of an abundance of caution, the university has decided to cancel all FLEAPS for the remainder of the spring semester -- including FLEAPS scheduled for May -- given the rising number of nations that have experienced outbreaks and the speed with which governments are imposing travel restrictions. This is in addition to those that have already been cancelled. All students who had registered for these trips are being contacted directly regarding refunds and opportunities to earn academic and SET credit through other courses and programs. We are sorry for the disappointment and inconvenience this decision has caused. Students who are already on semester abroad programs have been contacted and asked to take precautionary measures. Those planning on summer study abroad programs will also be contacted on a case-by-case basis but should contact the Center for Global Engagement if they have questions in the meantime.

RMU also advises all students, faculty, and staff planning personal travel abroad to pay close attention to U.S. Department of State travel alerts, and be advised that travel restrictions and quarantine requirements may be imposed quickly by the United States and other governments. [Click here for a list of all current travel advisories](#), and we urge you to heed them under all circumstances.

In addition, we ask that you continue to take the following measures to prevent the spread of all communicable illnesses:

- Cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze;
- Dispose of used tissues;
- Wash your hands often with soap and hot water;
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers which are located throughout campus;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth;
- Do not share drinks, utensils, or other personal items;
- Stay home if you are sick and avoid contact with individuals who are sick; and
- Get immunized for vaccine-preventable diseases, including obtaining an annual flu shot.

All members of the university community are reminded of the services available through our MyHealth@School center located in Jefferson Center. The services in the center are free for enrolled students and benefit-eligible employees and spouses. You never need an appointment. Individuals who feel ill or are concerned about their health should contact the center at 412-397-6220 for assistance. The center is open Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. After these hours and on weekends, residential students should contact the Office of Residence Life at 412-

397-5242 for assistance. Employees who are ill should promptly notify their supervisor and seek advice from a medical provider.

The CDC reports that patients who have been diagnosed with a confirmed infection have reported mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms that include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. If you are experiencing these symptoms please contact the MyHealth@School center by phone to receive guidance on the next best steps.

RMU is following the current guidance provided by the Allegheny County Health Department, American College Health Association, and the CDC. Those are all excellent sources of information if you have any additional concerns about the coronavirus, and wish to separate facts from rumors. We know that in some communities, people have been harassed or otherwise unfairly targeted because of their background or country of origin, which is contrary to the values of Robert Morris University.

Thank you for your cooperation and your attention to helping keep the members of our community healthy and well. We will provide additional campus communications as needed.

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable spring break.

Sincerely,

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