

INTERIM RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FRATERNITY & SORORITY CHAPTERS TO PLAN AND RESPOND TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

The following information is taken from the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Publication "Interim Guidance For Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), February 2020" and has been adapted for application to College-Based Fraternal Organizations.

MARCH 2020 – AURORA, COLORADO

Background: 2019 Novel Coronavirus, or COVID-19, is a new respiratory virus identified in December 2019 as the cause of an outbreak in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. People who get sick with COVID-19 develop mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms including fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. Illness can begin 2 to 14 days after an exposure. Typically, with most respiratory viruses, people are thought to be most contagious when they are most symptomatic. The latest national situation summary updates, including the number of cases identified in the United States, are available on [CDC's web page](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s110320-novel-coronavirus-19.html).

The following interim guidance may help prevent chapter facility exposures to acute respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19, in non-healthcare settings. The guidance also provides planning considerations if there are more widespread, community outbreaks of COVID-19.



How does COVID-19 Spread?

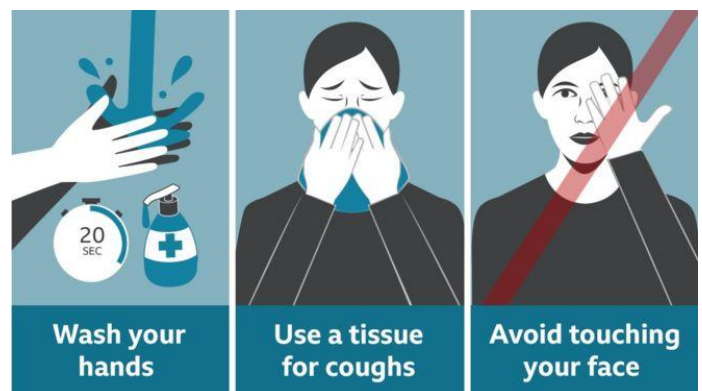
Although the ongoing outbreak likely resulted originally from people who were exposed to infected animals, COVID-19, like other coronaviruses, can spread between people. Infected people can spread COVID-19 through their respiratory secretions, especially when they cough or sneeze. According to the CDC, spread from person-to-person is most likely among close contacts (about 6 feet). Person-to-person spread is thought to occur mainly via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, similar to how influenza and other respiratory pathogens spread. These droplets can land in

the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. It's currently unclear if a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes.

Given what has occurred previously with respiratory diseases such as MERS and SARS that are caused by other coronaviruses, it is likely that some person-to-person spread will continue to occur.

There is much more to learn about the transmissibility, severity, and other features associated with COVID-19, and investigations are ongoing.

To prevent stigma and discrimination in the chapter facility, use only the guidance described below to determine risk of COVID-19. Do not make determinations of risk based on race or country of origin and be sure to maintain confidentiality of people with confirmed COVID-19. There is much more to learn about the transmissibility, severity, and other features of COVID-19 and investigations are ongoing.



RISK MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES

James R. Favor & Company offers the following risk management strategies to assist all chapters and members in reducing exposure to and spread of COVID-19.

1. Actively encourage sick members to seek medical attention and sick employees to stay home:

Members and fraternity employees (such as Cooks and Housekeepers) who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness are recommended to seek medical attention and if possible, to isolate themselves from other members and for sick employees to stay home.

Many state health departments suggest that individuals with symptoms first telephone their medical provider and ask for guidance instead of just showing up for appointments. This will help limit the spread of the virus. Your medical provider will provide instructions as to if an appointment is needed or if the virus can be treated at home.

Persons with symptoms should stay away from other members and not participate in chapter events until cleared by medical professionals or until they are free of fever (100.4°F / 37.8°C or greater using an oral thermometer), signs of a fever, and any other symptoms for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines (e.g. cough suppressants). Members should notify the appropriate chapter officer or campus medical official if they are sick.

- Members that have been diagnosed with Coronavirus should follow all requirements outlined by their medical providers before returning to the chapter facility. This may require isolation away from the chapter facility for 14-days or longer after the symptoms have ceased. In all cases, members should follow the advice and instructions of their doctors and other campus, city, state or federal CDC guidelines.
- Ensure that any member participation requirements are flexible and consistent with public health guidance and that members are aware of these policies.
- Talk with any independent contractors such as cooks, housekeeping personnel, or companies that provide your chapter with services or supplies about the importance of sick employees staying home and away from the chapter facility during their illness.
- Chapters should maintain flexible policies that permit members and/or employees to stay home to care for a sick family member. Chapters should be aware that more members may need to stay at home to care for sick family members than is usual.

- If a chapter member has respiratory, fever, or flu-like symptoms and if he is self-isolating himself in his room at the chapter facility, it is critical that other chapter members make sure that he is able to receive adequate food, water, and medical attention. The member should be checked-on regularly to ensure he receives proper care. Report the members illness to your college health center. Follow all guidelines suggested by your campus, city, state or CDC recommendations.
- If a chapter member is sick and unable to seek medical attention on his own, help him to obtain assistance as needed. If the member is experiencing obvious respiratory difficulty or is lethargic, experiencing severe fever, is unresponsive or in any distress of any nature **call 911** and call his parents and the campus health center. **DO NOT TAKE ANY CHANCES! IT IS BETTER TO BE OVERLY CAUTIOUS, CALL 911 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS.**
- If an outbreak on campus occurs, cease social events and other non-essential activities until the risk of exposure lessens. Always follow campus guidelines.

2. Separate sick members.

CDC recommends that individuals who appear to have acute respiratory illness symptoms (i.e. cough, shortness of breath) should be separated from other members. Sick members should cover their noses and mouths with a tissue when coughing or sneezing (or an elbow or shoulder if no tissue is available).

COVID 19
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

SYMPTOMS* OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

Patients with COVID-19 have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness. Symptoms can include

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

* Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure. If you have been in China within the past 2 weeks and develop symptoms, call your doctor.

www.cdc.gov/COVID19

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3. Emphasize employees to stay home when sick, members to seek medical attention and reduce contact with other members, and to practice respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene by all members & guests:

- Provide tissues and no-touch disposal receptacles for use by members.
- Instruct members to clean their hands often with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60-95% alcohol or wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty. Have hand sanitizer readily available in dispensers throughout the chapter facility for use by members and guests.
- Provide soap and water and alcohol-based hand rubs in the chapter facility. Ensure that adequate supplies are maintained. Place hand rubs in multiple locations or in main gathering locations and rooms to encourage hand hygiene.
- Visit the [coughing and sneezing etiquette](#) and [clean hands webpage](#) for more information.

4. Perform routine environmental cleaning:

- Routinely clean all frequently touched surfaces in the chapter facility, such as workstations, countertops, and doorknobs. Use the cleaning agents that are usually used in these areas and follow the directions on the label. Wipe down doorknobs and other common surfaces at least daily, twice a day or more if possible.
- No additional disinfection beyond routine cleaning is recommended at this time.
- Provide disposable wipes so that commonly used surfaces (for example, doorknobs, keyboards, remote controls, desks) can be wiped down by members before each use.

5. Advise members before traveling to take certain steps:

- Check the [CDC's Traveler's Health Notices](#) for the latest guidance and recommendations for each country to which you will travel. Specific travel information for travelers going to and returning from China, and information for aircrew, can be found at on the [CDC website](#).
- Advise Members to check themselves for symptoms of [acute respiratory illness](#) before starting travel and notify their parents and appropriate school medical staff if they are sick.
- Ensure members who become sick while traveling understand that they should notify their parents and

should promptly call a healthcare provider for advice if needed.

- If outside the United States, sick members should contact a healthcare provider or overseas medical assistance company to assist them with finding an appropriate healthcare provider in that country. A U.S. consular officer can help locate healthcare services. However, U.S. embassies, consulates, and military facilities do not have the legal authority, capability, and resources to evacuate or give medicines, vaccines, or medical care to private U.S. citizens overseas.

6. Additional Measures in Response to Currently Occurring Sporadic Importations of the COVID-19:

- Members who are well but who have a sick family member at home with COVID-19 should refer to CDC guidance for [how to conduct a risk assessment](#) of their potential exposure.
- If a Member is confirmed to have COVID-19, chapters should inform fellow members of their possible exposure to COVID-19 in the chapter facility but maintain confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Members exposed to a fellow student with confirmed COVID-19 should refer to CDC guidance for [how to conduct a risk assessment](#) of their potential exposure. Contact your school health center for advice and counsel on any questions regarding this matter.

7. What special precautions do chapters need to take?

Due to recent acceleration of COVID-19 transmission across China and in accordance with current federal guidance, most State Departments of Public Health recommend the following:

- Any student returning from mainland China should not attend school for 14 days after the return date.
- Family members of these students should not attend work if they also traveled to mainland China.
- If a student who returned from mainland China within the past 14-days develops respiratory symptoms including fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, report immediately to your college and local health department. Please keep in mind there are other respiratory viruses like influenza currently circulating. Call ahead before taking the student to a doctor's office or emergency department to prevent any potential spread.

8. Print and display each of the attached CDC posters that encourage staying home when sick, cough and sneeze etiquette, and hand hygiene at the entrance and throughout the chapter facility.