



An Important Message from Dr. Mary Drabik, President

SFBC's Coronavirus Response

SFBC is closely monitoring the situation regarding the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-2019). SFBC has a Pandemic Response Policy and we have activated it. The policy calls for the formation of a Pandemic Response Team (PRT) with members from many departments and offices of the University. The PRT has met to review what needs to be done in the various areas of the University to try to avoid any outbreak on campus and to be prepared in the case of a widespread outbreak in our area.

Status of COVID-19

As of March 2, 2020, there have been 86 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the US, many in persons repatriated from China or the cruise ship in Japan. At this point, there have been two deaths in the US attributed to COVID-19, both in Washington State. Also at this point, the two cases are being monitored in Florida. For reliable, up-to-date information, including answers to questions about COVID-19, visit the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>.

Current actions

Here are some steps that SFBC is already taking or that we will be taking shortly:

- The Pandemic Response Team has met and will meet regularly.
- Physical Resources personnel are using industrial disinfectant and taking extra steps in cleaning.
- Informational videos will be made available to students, faculty, and staff about how to reduce the spread of viruses through email links that will be sent out and placed on Canvas.
- Physical Resources has ordered additional disinfectant supplies and wipes that will be made available.
- Offices on campus are preparing plans for the continuation of essential operations in the event of a campus shutdown of two weeks or more.
- Faculty are preparing to move residential instruction online, if necessary.



- We are in communication with the Center for Disease Control, the Florida Department of Health, the Broward and Palm Beach County Health Departments for the latest information and advice.

COVID-19 Symptoms

The following comes from the Centers for Disease Control website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/symptoms.html>)

For confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases, reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death. Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

CDC believes at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure. This is based on what has been seen previously as the incubation period of MERS-CoV viruses.

Advice

If you are experiencing symptoms, seek medical help immediately either from University Health Services (ext. 5056) or a private physician. If you are experiencing symptoms, do **NOT** attend classes or other events and do **NOT** come into work. Absence policies for both students and employees will be relaxed during this period. Please err on the side of staying in or staying home. Students or employees should not return to classes or work until they have been free of fever and other symptoms, without the use of fever- or symptom-reducing medicines, for at least 24 hours.

Useful Links

[State of Florida Information on COVID-19 \(FloridaHealth.gov\)](https://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus-2019-ncov.html)

[World Health Organization](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/symptoms.html)

[Centers for Disease Control Travel Warnings](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travel-warnings)

[Coronavirus Prevent and Treatment \(CDC.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/symptoms.html)

[Florida Department of Health – Broward County](https://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus-2019-ncov.html)

[Florida Department of Health – Palm Beach County](https://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus-2019-ncov.html)