Health and Safety Update: College Worker Tests Positive for COVID-19
July 6, 2020

The College was notified today (July 6) that a worker who was recently on campus has tested positive for COVID-19. This is the first known positive case at the College. No students were in contact with the individual and all areas the individual came in contact with have been deep cleaned and sanitized as per CDC recommendations and College COVID protocols.

Due to personal privacy laws, the College is unable to release the identity of the worker. However, consistent with the protocols for our COVID response, anyone identified as having had close contact with the individual has been notified and asked to self-quarantine and self-monitor symptoms of COVID-19.

We understand that this news may very well heighten anxiety and concern. The College has been active in its preparations surrounding COVID and will continue to do everything possible to minimize the impact on our campus community.

Per Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations, the individual and all other employees that came within 6 feet of the person for at least 15 minutes within 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms have been sent home. The worker and those who came in contact with them will not return to the College for a minimum of 14 days. The individual who tested positive will be able to return to work, per CDC guidelines, after the following conditions have been met:

- The employee has had no fever for at least 72 hours (3 full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers)
  AND
- Respiratory symptoms have improved (for example, cough or shortness of breath have improved)
  AND
- at least 10 days have passed since their symptoms first appeared

As a reminder, If you have been around someone who was identified as a close contact to a person with COVID, you should closely monitor yourself for any symptoms of COVID. **You do not need to self-quarantine.** We ask that employees abide by the following CDC guidelines to protect your health and those around you:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
We continue to make the health and safety of employees, students, and campus visitors the highest priority as we respond to issues surrounding COVID-19. If you have questions regarding Return to Work guidelines, feel free to contact Tasha Welsh, Director of Human Resources, or Kristen Sides, HR Specialist.