



EMERGENCY RESPONSE RESOURCE GROUP:
PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS PLAN

For more information: www.canton.edu/covid19

March 10, 2020

COVID-19

The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious respiratory illness that can cause a range of symptoms such as cough, fever, and trouble breathing. It can be more severe for some and lead to pneumonia or breathing difficulties.

There are **no known cases** of COVID-19 in the SUNY Canton community.

SUNY Canton's Emergency Readiness Response Group is working with local, New York State, and federal agency representatives and regional health care networks to update and implement its existing pandemic planning protocols based on world events surrounding COVID-19.

SUNY CANTON PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS PLAN

TIERED RESPONSE LEVELS (0-III)

LEVEL 0: PLANNING

LEVEL I: HIGH ALERT

Communications; preventative measures; university-sponsored travel; academic continuity

LEVEL II: FULL ALERT (SOCIAL DISTANCING)

Potential suspension of classroom activity; social distancing; university-sponsored travel; absenteeism; academic considerations;

LEVEL III: PANDEMIC PERIOD **SUNY CANTON IS HERE!***

Minimal campus operations; cessation of on-campus instruction; online course delivery; suspension of normal operations.

*In consultation with SUNY and monitoring COVID-19 cases in surrounding counties, SUNY Canton has moved to Level III



PLAN SUMMARY

IN CONTEXT OF COVID-19

COLLEGE OPERATIONS UNDER HIGH ALERT

- Increased communication to the SUNY Canton campus community and visitors on preventative steps to limit spread of germs, awareness of travel warnings and CDC/NYS Department of Health information.
- Facilities staff have transitioned focus on cleaning and decontamination of high contact areas and increased use of chemicals known to be effective against human coronavirus.
- Human Resources and department heads have begun a process of explicitly identifying and communicating expectations to staff who are essential for core University operations.
- All supervisors initiating discussions about how their staff may be able to continue performing their core job functions remotely.
- Inventories of essential items to respond to COVID-19 put in place.

ACADEMIC OPERATIONS UNDER HIGH ALERT

- Academic Leadership is sharing materials and setting expectations with individual faculty members around continuity planning for classes.
- Faculty should prepare courses for online delivery via Blackboard.

SPRING BREAK & TRAVEL UNDER HIGH ALERT

- Following NYS & SUNY recommendations in restricting travel to countries classified as "Level 3" or higher.
- The CDC recommends that older adults or those who have chronic medical conditions consider postponing travel to destinations classified as "Level 2".
- Per a NYS directive, the campus community will be asked to report recent international travel (including personal travel) to a "Level 2" or higher country.
- New York State restricts travel for State employees to "Level 3" countries: China, Italy, Japan, Iran and South Korea.
- All other College-sponsored travel within the United States remains unrestricted voluntary.
- We will be prepared to respond to students who have a need or request to self-isolate.

FULL ALERT - MOVE TO SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Follow directives from NYS Department of Health regarding confirmed cases on campus or in respective local communities.
- Potential suspension of in-classroom activity and return of majority of students to their home communities.
- Transition to online instruction and virtual meetings; remote work scenarios.
- Essential personnel work in environments following decontamination protocols and in isolation.
- Review of all travel and likely cancellation of non-essential travel.
- Potential cancellation of all public events under the direction of the Health Department.
- Community members requested not to attend large external events in the local area.

PANDEMIC PERIOD - MINIMAL ACTIVITY

- Follow directives from NYS Department of Health and CDC.
- Suspension of all campus activities and identification of alternatives for students who cannot return to their home communities.
- Potential suspension of all face-to-face instruction.
- Further reductions of essential personnel on campus.
- Evaluation of assets that need ongoing care/ maintenance.
- Cancellation of all non-emergency travel.
- Cancellation of all public events.
- Community asked to watch for regular updates on when classes and normal operations will resume.
- [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) Update website](#)