

FIU March 18, 2020 Update

The school implemented taking individual temperatures and washing hands (per CDC recommendations) upon entering the building. Also, surfaces are being decontaminated on a regular basis and students are encouraged to practice social distancing while on campus.

As the situation changes, we are in direct communication with our Medical Director and adjusting policies, procedures and guidelines as needed.

As of today, we have modified student hours to effectively reduce the number of people in the building in order to be able to maintain groups of less than 10 to more effectively implement the social distancing of students. Staff hours have also been adjusted to meet the needs of the students while again reducing the number of people on campus.

The school continues to monitor information from the CDC, The President, The Governor of Florida, Department of Education, Veterans Affairs and AHBES and follow their guidelines and recommendations. As needed changes to policy occurs, we will notify students and staff and also post the information on our website - <https://fiupensacola.edu/>.

As of right now, we are planning on starting class on April 6, 2020. If April 6th is not an option, the start date will be pushed back to April 15th. We are also exploring other delivery options on a short term basis to get us through this time. We are in contact with our clinical sites on a daily basis and will make decisions based on the clinical sites' availability. We appreciate your patience during this time. As this is a first for us just as it is for you, please be assured that we are working in your best interest and your safety is our utmost concern.

Please be aware that as new information comes in, we are planning and updating plans as to what we will do in the future.

Symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough and shortness of breath. Symptoms may appear in as few as two days or as many as 14 days following exposure. Most people recover from COVID-19 without needing special treatment. The elderly and those with underlying medical problems like high blood pressure, heart problems and diabetes, are more likely to develop serious illness.

Safety and wellness practices:

- Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds
- If soap and water is not available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol
- Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue or your sleeve
- Avoid touching your face, especially your eyes, mouth and nose
- Disinfect commonly touched surfaces, including mobile devices

Spring break is less than two weeks away. Please use common sense while on spring break and avoid gatherings of more than 10 people. We strongly recommend all students and staff refrain from personal domestic and international travel except for emergency purposes. If a student or staff member travels and is required to self-quarantine, the time missed will have to be made up at a later date. The school will get with the student at a later time and together determine the best course of action to make up the hours.

Please monitor your email as changes will be sent to the email address on file at the school.

Greg Davis
Administrative Director