



STUDENT
AFFAIRS

Vice Chancellor Office

March 5, 2020

Dear TCU students,

I am writing to update you on new guidance that we have received from the Tarrant County Health Department, our local authority for response to the COVID-19 virus. The Tarrant County Health Department's (TCHD) guidance is informed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). As you prepare for travel during Spring Break, stay abreast of travel risks by checking the CDC's [website](#).

We have been communicating daily with the TCHD; information and risk assessment guidance changes quickly. Countries that may not pose a risk today may become a country of concern within days. Knowing that, we urge you to become familiar with the CDC coronavirus risk assessment because it may change your obligation upon returning to the country and TCU community.

College campuses are densely populated, and it is the aim of our community that we work to prevent the spread of this virus. For this reason, **we will adhere to the guidance of the Tarrant County Health Department and require self-observation for 14 days for anyone who has traveled to a country considered Level 3 Widespread Sustained Transmission by the CDC.**

Level 3 Widespread Sustained Transmission

The CDC has recommended travelers avoid non-essential travel to China, Iran, Italy and South Korea,* and TCU has ceased international programming in these areas for time being [*countries at publication]. People returning from a country that has been identified as having widespread, sustained community transmission are considered persons under **self-observation**.

Self-observation includes remaining alert to symptoms including fever, cough or difficulty breathing. It also requires that you practice social distancing, meaning that you must avoid places and events where others congregate, public and ride share transportation, and maintain distance (approximately 6 feet or 2 meters) from others for 14 days. Additional information is attached.

Social distancing is difficult to achieve for residential college campuses with full and active classroom and clinical environments. **Consequently, those required to comply with the guidelines for self-observation will be expected to do that away from campus.** We are working on a plan to register those who need to comply with these self-observation guidelines and to assist students in their continued engagement in their coursework while they are doing so.

Thank you for your conscientiousness for your health and cooperation for the public health issues of our community. If you have questions, please contact Campus Life at 817-257-7926.

Kathy Cavins-Tull