

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff:

You have likely heard news reports about the coronavirus, which was first diagnosed in Wuhan City, China, and has since spread to the United States.

At this time, there are currently five confirmed cases in the United States, including one in Chicago, Illinois.

Please know that Parkland College is closely monitoring the development of this outbreak through sources such as the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) and is collaborating with local agencies such as the [Champaign-Urbana Public Health District](#) to ensure the campus is responding appropriately to this national threat.

We are working to identify and support students who may be at risk for exposure due to recent travel to Wuhan City or have been in contact with individuals who have traveled to this region. We will continue to provide updates as needed until the risk has subsided.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggest the following [ways to protect yourself](#):

1. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
2. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
3. Avoid close contact with people who are sick (i.e. within 6 feet).

If you are a student, and you experience symptoms such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath, or if you feel you may be at risk for coronavirus, please stay home and report the symptoms directly to your healthcare provider or call the [Champaign-Urbana Public Health District](#) at 217-352-7961.

If you believe you are at risk for the coronavirus, please also notify Sara Maxwell, Parkland Wellness Coordinator, at smaxwell@parkland.edu or 217-373-3879.

Thank you for taking precautions to protect yourselves and others in our campus community. We wish everyone a safe and healthy semester.

Thomas Ramage, President