



**FOR YOUR FUTURE. FOR OUR FUTURE.**

*Preamble: Decisions during the 2020 novel coronavirus outbreak are made with the utmost concern for the health and safety of our students, faculty, staff, and our communities at large. Measures taken may seem extreme, but if we waited for a time when everyone agrees these actions are warranted, it would be too late. Our desire is to flatten the curve of infection with COVID-19 while continuing our core missions of developing learners and pursuing research. State and federal public officials advise the best time to take action to slow the spread of the virus is before it is established on our campuses and in our communities.*

## COVID-19 GUIDELINES

**UPDATED: March 13, 2020**

Effective immediately, the University of Louisiana System:

Discourages all foreign travel by students, faculty, and staff from UL System member institutions while the outbreak of COVID-19 remains a dynamic situation.

Requires university president approval for any university-sponsored travel to all countries identified as Level 1 or greater risk by the CDC. Such approval should be justified and travel should occur within parameters of the latest guidelines from the CDC and Governor John Bel Edwards's COVID-19 Task Force.

Encourages all students, faculty, and staff to return from all Level 1 or higher risk countries as soon as can be practically arranged. A quarantine period may be determined to be necessary before returning to the university.

Directs students, faculty and staff to report to the university all personal travel to a country identified by the CDC as Level 1 or greater risk.

Advises students, faculty, staff, visitors, and the community at large to follow healthy living guidelines, including: frequently washing hands with soap and water; covering coughs; avoiding touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands; and staying home when ill.

Requires member institutions to post information including institutional processes for compliance with these guidelines on university websites and post social media updates when warranted.

Commits to being part of the solution by taking measures to level the infection curve by operationalizing distance learning when possible, providing technical support to faculty and students during and after the transition to digital instruction. In instances where distance learning is not an option, such as lab-based courses, elevated sanitation and social distancing best practices should be followed. Events expected to draw more than 50 participants should be cancelled or postponed.

Directs universities to provide a supportive environment to students, faculty, and staff no matter the modality of instruction, referencing the System's HR guidelines as decisions are being made such as expanding the ability to telecommute. Access to the library or computer lab is paramount for students who do not have broadband internet or proper equipment at home. Residential students should be allowed to remain on campus, especially those without off-campus housing options, with access to food service and other vital needs. Elevated sanitation and social distancing best practices should be implemented in any space available for use by the campus community.

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*These guidelines should remain in place as long as COVID-19 is a threat to our students, faculty, staff, and communities. Once the universities return to full operations, the University of Louisiana System and member institutions will assess all aspects of the response in order to learn for future events.*

