Dear Barry Community,

The Command Decision Team, as part of the University’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, is actively monitoring the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). There have been no reported cases in or around the State of Florida but **the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that the risk of coronavirus spreading in the United States is increasing.** The University is proactively managing risk and planning holistically for how the situation may affect the overall community.

As such, today Barry University Provost Dr. John Murray implemented the following precautions surrounding international travel:

* In accordance with CDC travel guidance, University sponsored trips or study abroad programs to countries with nonessential travel advisories related to COVID-19 are suspended. That list currently includes: China, South Korea, Iran, Italy and Japan. Anyone in these countries on University business is advised to return to the US immediately.
* Anyone who has recently (less than two weeks) been in one of the above listed countries is required to immediately self-report to Student Health Services (HealthServices@barry.edu) and advised to quarantine at home for 14 days, even if there are no symptoms of illness. Home quarantine may be required depending on the circumstances.
* The University strongly recommends that nonessential personal travel to the above listed countries be avoided.
* Any student, faculty or staff member who travels to one of the above listed countries on personal business is required to self-report immediately to Student Health Services and a 14-day home quarantine may be required.

Any questions regarding study abroad programming pertaining to areas with University travel restrictions should contact Dr. Katherine Nelson, Director of Study Abroad at KNelson@barry.edu.

Questions regarding faculty or staff business related travel should contact the appropriate School or College Dean or Divisional Vice President.

Should additional countries be added to the CDC’s [Warning Level 3 or Alert Level 2 list](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html), the above precautions will apply. Furthermore, any University sponsored travel to domestic locations with declared local/regional/state emergencies related to COVID-19 are suspended.

**Upcoming Travel**

Heading into Spring Break, and for the foreseeable future, it is **highly recommended that students, faculty and staff report any planned international travel to Student Health Services (HealthServices@barry.edu)**, so the University can best protect community health as the situation is rapidly evolving.

For any students, faculty and staff who have returned from international travel less than two weeks ago, the same reporting is encouraged.

As indicated above, it is required that any travelers to countries with CDC nonessential travel advisories related to COVID-19 self-report to Student Health Services.

**General Disease Prevention**

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). It is imperative that all members of the University community are vigilant when it comes to everyday actions to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses and **stay home when they are sick**. **Please do not come to any campus or satellite location if you are experiencing any symptoms.** Preventive measures include:

* Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
* Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
* Avoid close contact with people who are sick
* Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
* Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces including, but not limited to: door handles, desks, armrests, keyboards, and personal space on public transportation
* Get a flu vaccine

**Additional Resources**

All community members should make themselves familiar with the University’s [Communicable Disease Policy](http://bucwis.barry.edu/includes/docs/policy/pdf/communicable-disease-policy.pdf), as well as the [Travel Abroad Policy](http://bucwis.barry.edu/includes/docs/policy/pdf/traveling-abroad-policy.pdf).

CDC Resources:

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 Overview](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 FAQ’s](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html)

[Stigma Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/related-stigma.html)

**The Command Decision Team will continue to monitor this evolving situation and will provide updates as needed. All communications will be posted to** [**www.barry.edu/prepare**](http://www.barry.edu/prepare/)**.**