

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

615 City Park Avenue

New Orleans, LA 70119

PHONE: (504) 762-3000 FAX: (504) 361-6697

www.dcc.edu

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Louisiana's first presumptive positive case of COVID-19, commonly referred to as coronavirus, has been reported. There is only one known case of the illness in the state at this time and the risk to the public remains low.

The Delgado coronavirus response workgroup continues to take proactive measures related to the coronavirus event. Among the measures underway at Delgado to date:

- Updates about the disease and ongoing efforts to keep the Delgado community healthy are being posted on the [Delgado website](#) and social media.
- Delgado maintenance and housekeeping staff are providing additional quantities of hand sanitizer in restrooms and workplaces, and they are using anti-viral cleaning chemicals. Signage is being placed around all Delgado locations reminding people how to protect themselves from the virus.
- Policy and procedures have been formalized at Delgado regarding travelers returning from CDC Level 2 or 3 classified countries, currently China, Italy, Iran, Japan, and South Korea. Anyone traveling in those countries must contact [Delgado Community College Health Services](#) to notify the college of their travel and request to return to campus after a required self-quarantine of 14 days. This self-isolation applies to both college-sponsored and personal travel. While isolated, they must self-monitor their health for 14 days. This monitoring involves taking their temperature at a minimum twice a day and if there is a

fever (temperature greater than 101 degrees Fahrenheit), cough, or difficulty breathing, contact a healthcare provider, report the recent travel, and avoid contact with others.

These individuals may not return to campus unless they have remained symptom-free for the entire 14-day period, submit a statement of health from an appropriate healthcare provider, and obtain clearance from Delgado Health Services

[The Louisiana Department of Health](#) (LDH) is leading the state's efforts to respond to COVID-19. Delgado Community College is in touch with local and state health departments to communicate the most up-to-date guidance from the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) and LDH.

Louisiana health officials will send the presumptive positive test to the CDC for confirmation of COVID-19. Because of the reliability of the test, Louisiana will move forward as if the test is an actual positive and take actions to contain the illness and assess the risk of spread.

The LDH Office of Public Health's epidemiology team will begin an investigation of people who have come in close contact with the patient, including health care workers, to determine the risk of spread.

People are encouraged to take the following steps to protect the health of themselves and those around them:

- Cover your cough.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, or with a hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoiding close contact (within six feet) with those who are sick.

Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. CDC believes at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- For updates on the college's actions during the coronavirus event, [visit the Delgado website](#).
- For updates on the state's response to the coronavirus situation, [visit the LDH website](#).
- Members of the public with questions about coronavirus disease may call the LDH coronavirus information line at 1-855-523-2652 from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.