

May 8, 2020

Re: Member of Iowa State Community tests positive for COVID-19

Dear Iowa State students, faculty, and staff,

Since the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we said we would notify campus of a confirmed case involving an Iowa State community member. Subsequently, we are writing to share that a member has self-identified as testing positive for COVID-19. Our thoughts are with this individual. This is the first lab-confirmed case associated with the Iowa State community.

We thank this individual for taking all of the [appropriate actions](#) to self-identify and self-isolate. The individual shared they were not exposed on campus and were last on campus three weeks ago. Consequently, there is no increased risk to the campus community.

We ask that you avoid speculating or spreading misinformation about the identity of this individual. Instead, please show compassion to others and do your part to mitigate your risk of infection.

Be diligent about practicing infection control strategies:

- Practice [social/physical distancing](#).
- Employees may wear cloth face coverings.
- Cover your nose and mouth with tissues when you cough or sneeze and throw the tissue in the trash after use.
- Wash hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth to avoid spreading germs.
- Improve your immune system by getting enough rest, exercising regularly, and eating healthy.
- Stay home if you are sick and avoid close contact with sick people.

We will not be sending a campus message for every confirmed COVID-19 case among the Iowa State community, so it is important to [resist rumors](#), and rely on factual information from credible sources. Confirmed cases are reported on coronavirus.iowa.gov.

We will continue to share new information and updates about Iowa State University's response to the pandemic on the [campus safety page](#).

Thank you for doing your part to help slow the spread. Please continue to take care of yourselves.

Sincerely,

Wendy Wintersteen
President

Erin Baldwin
Assistant Vice President for Student
Health and Wellness and Director of
Thielen Student Health Center

Michael Newton
Associate Vice President for
Public Safety and Chief of
Police