COVID-19 Response, Fall 2020 Semester

As MSU Denver gradually returns to campus in Fall 2020, we are committed to providing a quality learning experience along with providing a safe and healthy educational environment. In doing so, the University has developed the following safety measures/requirements that all students, faculty and staff must adhere to.

1. **Required Daily Health Assessment**
   
   Each day (prior to coming to campus) students are to perform a self-health assessment for possible symptoms of COVID-19. Ask yourself, “do I have any of the following symptoms”, yes or no.
   
   - Fever or elevated body temperature (100.4 or higher)
   - New cough
   - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
   - Runny nose
   - Headache
   - Sore throat
   - Muscle pain/body aches
   - Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
   - Loss of taste or smell
   - Chills and/or repeated shaking with chills

   **Situational questions - Yes or No**
   
   - Have you had direct contact with a person with COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
   - In the last two weeks, have you worked or volunteered at a health care facility?
   - Were you diagnosed with a positive case of COVID-19 in the past 30 days?

   If you respond “yes” to any of the questions above, you are NOT to come to campus and should call the Health Center at Auraria at 303-615-9999. A medical provider will evaluate your symptoms over the phone to determine the best course of action, which may include testing for COVID-19 for free at the Health Center. In this example, the Health Center at Auraria must “clear” you for future campus access. Without this clearance, you are not permitted on campus.

2. **Required Face Covering**
   
   You must wear a facial covering that fully covers your mouth and nose (mask or face shield) at all time on campus, when in the presence of others. This is a requirement of all individuals who choose to be on-campus.

3. **Required Social Distancing**
All individuals on-campus must maintain social distancing from others, which means that there needs to be six (6) feet of distance between any two people. All classrooms have been modified to achieve social distancing. However, it is imperative that students, faculty and staff practice social distancing in all campus locations/common spaces outside of the classroom as well.

4. **Hand Cleanliness**
   Hand sanitizer will be available at all building entrances. It is important that all students, faculty and staff maintain good hand hygiene by washing their hands regularly and using hand sanitizer as a secondary preventive measure.

5. **Limit Time Spent On Campus**
   Once a student completes their official business on campus (i.e., attending class, using computers, etc.) they are to leave campus, rather than remain on-site, in order to reduce the number of individuals who are present at any one-time.

6. **Building Signage**
   Follow all instructions on signage found throughout campus, (i.e., elevator capacity, face covering requirement, etc.)

7. **Safety When Not On Campus**
   In order for all students, faculty and staff to protect themselves and others when at home and in the community at large, it is extremely important that students, faculty and staff practice the safety measures identified in items 1-4 at all times, not just when present on campus. Making wise personal decisions is a key component to reducing the risk of contracting COVID-19.

- **Student Class Attendance Policy**
  - General Student Policy: Students who are demonstrating any of the symptoms outlined above are not to report to class. Those diagnosed with COVID-19 will be advised by a medical provider at the Health Center at Auraria as to how long to isolate/quarantine. A student may not return to classroom-delivered instruction until he/she can provide written clearance from the Health Center at Auraria.
  - In addition to calling the Health Center at Auraria, students who are ill must also notify their course instructor, clinical instructor and/or their supervisor for those working on campus.
  - Excusing Students from Class: If an instructor identifies a student who appears to be ill, the instructor will ask the student to immediately call the Health Center at Auraria so that they can be evaluated while on campus. Students must call 303-615-9999, prior to going to the Health Center at Auraria, so that a medical provider can determine the best intervention, based on a student’s symptoms.
  - Reporting Absence from Classes: If a student is absent due to the virus, the instructor should notify the chair of the department and the Dean’s office.
- If a student is noticeably absent and has not contacted the instructor, the instructor will report the absenteeism to the chair of the department and the Dean’s office. The Dean’s office will notify the Health Center on Auraria at 303-615-9999.
- If a student is absent due to an infected family member (who resides in the same household) they can continue learning through all other means (online, hard copy, email, etc.) Instructors will provide students with class materials/assignments so that they can successfully continue the learning process.

**Change in Delivery Format of Classes**

At any time during the semester, classes on campus may shift to an online delivery format depending on the State Health Department’s review of COVID-19 case threshold.

**Concerned about a student?**

The Student Care Center provides holistic, non-clinical case management support to MSU Denver Students who are facing challenging life circumstances that may prevent them from otherwise pursuing their educational goal. Case managers do outreach on behalf of the CARE Team. **CARE Referrals** are meant to provide a mechanism for community members to report a student who is engaging in concerning behavior or needs additional support related to life circumstances. Case managers are available to help students work through:

- Struggling with a difficult life circumstance or health issues
- Thought of harm to self, others or locations
- Experiencing significant loss such as the death of a family member
- Victim of harassment, stalking, interpersonal violence or sexual assault
- Struggling with food and housing insecurity or any basic needs concerns
- A need for assistance with public benefits such as SNAP

Please contact the Student CARE Center at 303-615-0006 or file a CARE referral online at msudenver.edu/care if you or someone you know may benefit from this support.