

COVID-19 Update From Commissioner Christian | March 12, 2020

In partnership with the Board of Regents and as Commissioner of Higher Education for the Montana University System, the health and safety of our campus communities remains our top priority. With that in mind, and in light of the rapidly evolving challenge presented by the COVID-19 outbreak, I am directing all MUS campuses to implement the following decisions as soon as possible:

1. **As of March 23rd, all MUS campuses will, in every instance possible, transition all in-class instruction to online or other remote teaching modalities that do not require in-class presence.** Individual departments, colleges, and universities should provide all material assistance and accommodation possible to faculty and students throughout this transition.
2. **MUS campuses will remain open and operational for students.** This includes residence halls, dining services, computer labs, and most other campus services. Employees will continue to report to work unless instructed otherwise or work-from-home accommodations are developed in individual cases.
3. To protect public health, **MUS campuses will implement appropriate social distancing measures in line with CDC guidelines and recommendations.** This should include restrictions on large lectures, theater performances, academic conferences, and other large gatherings.
4. **All MUS students and employees need to monitor their official email address for more communications and planning details** between now and March 23rd.

These decisions are in effect until further notice.

[Read the commissioner's full update here.](#)