

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT/SUPERINTENDENT
PRESIDENT'S CAMPUS UPDATES



March 9, 2020

Dear Cerritos College Family,

Effective immediately and until further notice, Cerritos College students and employees are strongly advised against partaking in any non-essential travel, particularly with regard to international travel. I have no standard definition of “non-essential” to guide your decisions and I ask that you use your best judgment. **At the time of this email, there are no COVID-19 (Coronavirus) cases reported at Cerritos College.** Frequently asked questions regarding canceling or postponing travel can be found on the [CDC website](#).

In addition, travelers with underlying health issues should avoid situations that put them at increased risk for more severe disease. This entails avoiding crowded places, avoiding non-essential travel such as long plane trips, and especially avoiding embarking on cruise ships.

Per the Centers for Disease Control, be advised that travelers to Italy, China, South Korea and Iran should stay home for 14 days after returning to the United States and practice social distancing (remaining out of congregate settings, avoiding mass gatherings, and maintaining distance—approximately 6 feet or 2 meters—from others when possible). Travelers to Japan should watch their health during travel and for 14 days after returning to the United States. This includes flights with layovers in these countries.

Flight cancellations, quarantines and border closures have been implemented by several countries on short notice. The Cerritos Community College District strongly recommends postponing non-essential travel at this time in order to minimize potential exposure to COVID-19.

Faculty & Staff Travel

To every employee seeking district travel to a CDC Level 3 country (China, South Korea, Iran, and Italy) or U.S. State Department Level 4 country (China and regions of Italy): we are asking to postpone your plans. We are also asking all employees to communicate with their area Vice President regarding any District traveling plans—even if those plans were previously agreed upon.

Travel Health Notices

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and U.S. Department of State issued the following travel health notices:

Warning Level 2: Practice Enhanced Precautions

The CDC recommends that older adults and those who have chronic medical conditions avoid nonessential travel to **Japan**. All travelers to Japan should watch their health during travel and for 14 days after returning to the United States.

Warning Level 3: Avoid Nonessential Travel

The CDC recommends that travelers avoid all nonessential travel to **Italy, China, South Korea and Iran**. All travelers to Italy, China, South Korea and Iran should stay home for 14 days after returning to the United States and practice social distancing.

Level 4: Do Not Travel

The U.S. Department of State also published Level 4 travel advisories for [China](#) and the [Lombardy and Veneto regions](#) of Italy that advises all U.S. citizens to avoid any travel to the country.

Passengers on Cruise Ships

The CDC recommends travelers, particularly those with underlying health issues, defer all cruise ship travel worldwide. Sustained community spread of respiratory illness caused by COVID-19 has been reported in many countries. Cruise ship passengers are at increased risk of person-to-person spread of infectious diseases, including COVID-19. Older adults and travelers with underlying health issues should avoid situations that put them at increased risk for more severe disease. This entails avoiding crowded places, avoiding non-essential travel such as long plane trips, and especially avoiding embarking on cruise ships.

U.S. Entry Restrictions

Effective at 5 p.m. on February 2, 2020, the U.S. government suspended the entry of foreign nationals who had visited China within the past 14 days. U.S. citizens, residents and their immediate family members who have been in China are allowed to enter the United States, but they are subject to health monitoring and possible quarantine for up to 14 days.

Plans may rapidly change based on how the situation develops. We are continuing to monitor the situation and will provide updates as needed. Please know that all updates will also be uploaded to our [website](#).

Thank you for understanding and helping us keep everyone at Cerritos College safe.

Thanks,
Jose

Jose Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent