

**From:** UWA Public Relations  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 2, 2020 1:50 PM  
**To:** All Faculty and Staff; All Students  
**Subject:** COVID-19 Update - April 2

One student who was studying abroad (in another country) during the spring 2020 semester has reportedly tested positive for COVID-19. The student, who has not lived on campus this semester, returned to the U.S. when the partner university where the student was studying closed. The individual was not experiencing symptoms upon return to the U.S., but has since experienced symptoms that prompted testing, with reportedly positive results. The student has not returned to campus but is said to have interacted with another student who returned to UWA after spring break, thus creating potential exposure to the virus for that person. At this time, no symptoms are being experienced by the individual who reports having interacted with the person who tested positive; however, in an abundance of caution, that individual is following University and other guidance by leaving campus and self-isolating. The University is also professionally cleaning areas where the possibly exposed individual was. This individual has, in adherence to University and other guidance, continually practiced social distancing and reports having very little contact with anyone on campus following Spring Break, which ended March 29. At this time, this is the only report of assumed exposure and only report of any individual affiliated with UWA having tested positive. **No one on campus has reported having tested positive for COVID-19.** The risk of exposure is believed to be very low on campus, and UWA continues to adhere to (and sometimes exceed) all health, professional, and government guidelines.

The University has [continually provided](#) CDC, WHO, ADPH and other guidelines to the campus community to minimize the risk of spread of COVID-19. University residences have remained open on a limited basis to accommodate students who needed housing, but students have been provided early check-out options since March 16. Students have been allowed to stay under hardship status while they seek other arrangements. In-person class meetings were canceled effective March 16, with all classes transitioning to online instruction beginning the same day, to be completely transitioned by April 6. All University events and travel have previously been canceled until further notice. University offices are operating at a minimum staffing level to continue essential operations while maintaining social distancing and other protocols, with the vast majority of employees working remotely. The University has continually conducted disinfecting practices since it announced cancellation of campus events and in-person gatherings (including class meetings) on March 16.

Any person who believes they may have been exposed to COVID-19 through any interactions at any location, and anyone experiencing any symptoms of the virus should follow state guidance for testing. UWA urges all members of the University community to adhere strictly to the guidelines in place by CDC, WHO, ADPH and other associated agencies.