

Dear Colleagues,

This weekend we were informed of two students in the College of Arts and Sciences who have tested positive for COVID-19. Both students are recovering at home and we wish them well.

-One student was last in class on February 26. The student developed symptoms on March 5, was tested March 12 and results were received on March 13. The student has been self-isolating at home since feeling symptoms.

-The second student was last in class on March 6 and did not attend in-person classes, campus classrooms, or offices since March 6. The student reported that they first developed symptoms on March 11, was tested, and results were received on March 13. The few campus areas that the student visited on March 11 have been cleaned and disinfected as a precaution. They include dorm areas and a coffee shop. The student has been staying home since March 11 per public health guidance.

The UW's Environmental Health & Safety Department (EH&S) has been in direct contact with the students and is in ongoing coordination with Public Health-Seattle King County. Community transmission COVID-19 continues to increase locally, in our region, and in the United States. Based on the information gathered, the risk of transmission for the general community from these cases is considered to be low for those who have not had close contact with the students. Additional information has been provided to individuals who may have been in close contact with the students since the onset of symptoms, and those individuals have been asked to stay home and monitor symptoms for 14 days.

As a reminder, most people with COVID-19 infection develop mild to moderate illness without the need for medical care. Those who are older and/or have underlying health issues are at higher risk for developing more serious illness. The most important thing we can do to limit the spread of illness is to:

- Stay home when you are sick and avoid close contact with others.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for a least 20 seconds. If water is not available, use hand sanitizer, with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing. Immediately throw the tissue in the garbage.

For more information see the University [Coronavirus FAQ Page](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the EH&S Employee Health Center at emplth@uw.edu.

Please forward this message to your faculty, staff, and students.

Best wishes, Bob
Robert Stacey, Dean
College of Arts and Sciences

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