



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

TO: TSU Students
FROM: Dr. Kendall Harris (Office of the Provost)
DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2020
RE: **TSU & Coronavirus Update**

As you are aware, conditions are ever-changing with regard to the coronavirus. I can assure you that TSU faculty and staff are working hard to make sure things are ready when Spring Break is over and we transition to online instruction on Monday, March 23. We will continue online instruction through at least April 4, and we will update you if conditions change.

Given the situation, it is crucial that you pay attention to any emails and other forms of communication that TSU administration and faculty will be sending to you. Please stay connected to TSU. We pledge to employ all means necessary to keep the academic integrity of the semester intact. We know that you will have questions and concerns over the coming days and weeks, and we will work to get them addressed in a timely manner.

Regarding the transition to online instruction, here are some important pieces of information:

- Between now and March 23, it is vital that you make sure you can log on to the Blackboard platform. Your MyTSU sign on is the same for Blackboard (**Username:** Student Email Address; **Password:** Your Email Password)

- **You should view the following two YouTube links that provide information for the transition to online courses via Blackboard:**

 - **TSU Blackboard Student Orientation (specific to TSU students)**

 - https://youtu.be/iy_Xkq1VCHI

 - **Blackboard YouTube Channel for students**

 - <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLontYaReEU1seUE3ACG3sEc3zR7Br7URU>

- If you have limited or no access to a computer and/or Internet connectivity/WiFi, the TSU Library Learning Center (LLC) will be open. The LLC will follow 'social distancing' guidelines with regard to computer stations, study areas and other spaces. For more information, on hours of operation and services, visit the LLC [website](#).

- Please note that many networks are providing free WiFi for the next two months if you don't have connectivity at home. Here are some resources regarding WiFi and connectivity:
 - [FCC agreement](#) stating that providers will waive late fees, not cutoff service for lack of payment, and open hot-spots.
 - [Comcast COVID-19 response](#): offers free WiFi for 2 months to low income families plus all Xfinity hot-spots are free to the public during this time
 - [Charter Free Internet offer for 2 months](#)
 - [AT&T COVID-19 response](#): offers open hot-spots, unlimited data to existing customers, and \$10/month plans to low income families
 - [Verizon COVID-19 response](#): no special offers, but following the FCC agreement.
 - [Sprint COVID-19 response](#): follows FCC agreement, provides unlimited data to existing customers, and, starting Tuesday, 3/17/2020, will allow all handsets to enable hot-spots for 60 days at no extra charge (I expect others will follow).
 - [T-Mobile COVID-19 response](#): follows FCC agreement, plus unlimited data to existing customers, and, coming soon, will allow all handsets to enable hot-spots for 60 days at no extra charge (I expect others will follow).

Email & FAQ resources for those with questions:

If you have any questions or concerns related to TSU and the coronavirus, here are two important resources for you: 1) You can send an email to corona@tsu.edu and within 24 hours we pledge to respond. We have also set up a list of [TSU/coronavirus FAQs](#), which is clickable from the TSU [coronavirus webpage](#). As we get new information or make new decisions, we will update the FAQs accordingly.

Travel Information:

Very important: During Spring Break, if you are traveling to a country identified by the CDC with a Level 3 Travel Health Notice (currently Italy, China, South Korea, Iran and Venezuela), depending on your travel history, you will be asked to stay home in self-quarantine for a period of 14 days from the time you left an area with widespread or ongoing community spread. Additionally, it has been recommended that anyone traveling outside the state of Texas should self-quarantine for seven (7) days upon their return. To help the university best assess potential exposure and risks to our campus community, we are asking any student, faculty or staff member who is traveling internationally during Spring Break to let us know in advance by filling out this [form](#). We want to keep our campus community as safe and healthy as possible. We will have more communication for you very soon, so stay tuned.

Go Tigers!