



Western Nebraska Community College

Hello students-

Please see a message below from President Simone regarding COVID-19:

"Western Nebraska Community College takes the health and safety of our campus communities seriously and I know you have many questions and concerns regarding COVID-19. WNCC has been meeting all week with various community stakeholders, including the Panhandle Public Health District (PPHD). We have considered numerous perspectives in our decision-making and this is a fluid, constantly evolving situation.

At this time, our plan is to resume classes as scheduled on Monday, March 16. I want to reassure you that we are working through this serious matter, and you will be the first to know about further response plans at WNCC."

According to the Panhandle Public Health District (PPHD), as of today March 12, the risk for contracting COVID-19 remains low in the Panhandle. There are no known cases at this time.

Below is some important information you need to know now:

Classes: As of right now, **classes resume as scheduled on Monday, March 16.**

Communication: We will continue to share the latest updates with you via email and on our [website](#).

Travel: WNCC, in partnership with PPHD, is urging you to voluntarily disclose travel that took place outside of the Nebraska Panhandle during Spring Break. Click [here](#) to access the form.

Evaluating Your Health: Please **stay home, limit your contact with others**, and contact PPHD at 308-262-5764 immediately if you have the following symptoms:

- A fever above 100.4 degrees.
- Symptoms of respiratory illness, such as cough or difficulty breathing.

Additionally, you should contact PPHD if:

- You have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19.
- You recently traveled to an area with [ongoing spread](#).

PPHD will conduct a phone screening, and if medical attention is needed, PPHD will make arrangements for testing. **Do not go directly to a clinic or hospital. It is important that health care providers know you are coming so that proper precautions can be in place.**

Academics: We are strongly considering a transition of much of our instruction to an online environment. We will notify you immediately via email of any adjustments in coursework delivery methods.

To echo President Simone, I want to reassure you that we are working through this serious matter, and you will be the first to know about further response plans at WNCC.

For questions regarding WNCC's response to COVID-19, please email covid19@wncc.edu.

Respectfully,

Joshua Vesper
Environmental Health & Safety Coordinator
Western Nebraska Community College