

March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020



Dear Students,

Blackfeet Community College has taken several safety precautions, due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States. It is imperative to take preventative healthcare measures to help minimize risks associated with potential exposure to the Coronavirus. Students, please practice the following health care practices:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough/sneeze with tissue or sneeze into your elbow. Throw the tissue in the garbage and make sure to clean your hands afterwards.
- Don't touch your eye, nose or mouth, especially with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Clean high-touch surfaces often.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid close contact with people who are showing symptoms of the illness.

If you live in a household that has either elders and/or individuals that have significant underlying conditions, please note the following recommendations for a safe household:

- Have the healthy people in the household conduct themselves as if they were a significant risk to the person with underlying conditions. For example, wash hands, frequently before interaction with the person, such as by feeding or caring for the person.
- If possible, provide a protected space for vulnerable household members.
- Ensure all utensils and surfaces are cleaned regularly.
- Increase ventilation by opening windows or adjusting air conditions.

If you have a household with a sick family member:

- Give sick members their own room if possible and keep the door closed.
- Have only one family member care for them.
- Consider providing additional protections or more intensive care for household members over 65 years old or with underlying conditions.

(The Association for Professionals in Infections Control and Epidemiology APIC)

If you are experiencing the following symptoms: ***fever, cough, or shortness of breath***, please seek out healthcare services for appropriate testing and treatment. Please call ahead to your healthcare provider, prior to arriving at the hospital. Also, contact your instructor if you are sick, so that you are provided appropriate accommodations for your absences.

BCC is asking all students to self-disclose any medical issues that are related to lower immune system functioning i.e. lung disease, heart disease, diabetes, etc. Please report to Daisy Louis-Gilham at (406) 338-5441 Ext# 2232 or at dlouis@gmail.com if you have any medical issues. This is to ensure that BCC is aware of all student medical issues, so that the college is equipped to provide accommodations as needed.

Blackfeet Community College is taking precautions and implementing preventative healthcare, due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. If you are starting to feel worried or anxious about the Coronavirus outbreak, please do not hesitate to see one of our counselors in the Student Success Center for confidential student support services.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karla Bird', written in a cursive style.

President

Karla Bird