

Dear NSC Community,

The College continues to closely monitor information related to the Coronavirus Disease 2019, also known as COVID-19.

The [Southern Nevada Health District](#) today announced the first presumptive positive case of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in a Clark County resident. Test results are considered “presumptive positive” until the result is confirmed by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). The patient is a male in his 50s who is hospitalized and currently in airborne isolation.

According to the Health District, the patient reported recent travel history to Washington state, where community spread of the virus is being reported, and Texas, which has reported its first travel-associated case. The Health District is working with its health care partners and leading the effort to quickly identify close contacts of the patient.

While the COVID-19 outbreak is as serious public health threat, the immediate risk from the virus to the general public in Clark County and the United States remains low at this time.

Our team will continue to monitor the situation as more is learned about COVID-19 in case the virus is detected in the community. Periodic updates will be issued as warranted.

Here are steps to help prevent the spread of infectious disease, such as the flu and COVID-19.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- When you are sick, keep your distance from others or stay home from work or school to limit others’ exposure to illness.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Practice other good health habits, including getting plenty of sleep, being physically active, managing your stress, drinking plenty of fluids, and eating nutritious food.
- Learn more on the [CDC’s website](#) for [recommendations](#) and [situation summary](#) related to COVID-19.

Let’s all keep perspective, demonstrate empathy and show respect. Simple health practices will help prevent these type of respiratory illnesses. Avoid stereotyping or stigmatizing any individuals or groups in the NSC and global community.

If you have any questions, please contact Edith Fernández, Vice President of College and Community Engagement who is working closely with Gregg Maye from the University Police Services' Office of Emergency Management.

Sincerely,

Bart Patterson
President