



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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All Northark classes online until March 30, 2020

Non-essential employees to work from home

HARRISON, AR – In light of the announcement yesterday by Governor Asa Hutchinson of the closing of Arkansas public schools and the shift by colleges across the nation to begin online delivery, Northark will move **all** in-person classes online until March 30, 2020.

The College will close during spring break. In-person classes are expected to resume Monday, March 30th unless the College announces otherwise.

This is out of the abundance of precaution as no students, staff or faculty have been confirmed to have contracted the COVID-19 virus as of the date and time of this announcement. To practice social distancing, faculty and staff will begin working from home beginning at noon on Monday, March 16, 2020.

The technical instructors are finalizing plans to deliver instruction remotely and will communicate those plans with students. Most classes will be ready in the next couple of days. Students are encouraged to check emails regularly and get their instructors cell phone or landline number. Students should also let their instructor know if they do not have computer access so that accommodations can be made.

Key information for students and staff:

- Workforce training classes on the north campus during spring break will be held.
- Technical instructors should contact students with information about online delivery.
- Concurrent credit classes will make up work when they return.
- Please refrain from bringing non-employees on campus until further notice.
- Most clinicals have been suspended in Health Professions. Directors will communicate specifics to students and instructors.

- Adult Education classes will follow the local high school directive.
- Essential personnel on campus only March 16-20. Staff and faculty will work from home beginning at noon on Monday, March 16, 2020.
- Faculty, staff and students should check emails and college communications frequently for changes and notifications.
- The Fiddler's Convention on campus has been canceled.
- If you or someone sharing your home is exposed or diagnosed with COVID-19, notify Kris Greening immediately at (870) 391-3215.
- Spring Break -The CDC is recommending that travelers avoid all non-essential travel to China, South Korea, Iran and Europe. Travelers returning from those areas to the U.S. will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days and practice self-distancing. Additionally, the CDC is placing the rest of the world at a Level 2 risk, including the United States. All travelers are recommended to monitor their health for 14 days after traveling.
- Everyone is urged to continue to practice social distancing and preventative measures as recommended by the CDC.

“We will reassess the situation prior to March 30 and decide where we go from there,” said Dr. Randy Esters, Northark president. “I’d like to extend a big thank you to our faculty who have jumped into action to quickly pivot instruction online and staff who have made accommodations in order to continuously serve our students and community remotely.”

Northark will closely monitor the situation as it evolves. The latest news and updates can be found at www.northark.edu/coronavirus. Students, staff, faculty, parents and the general public can send questions or concerns by email to coronavirus@northark.edu.

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