

To all Abcott students, employees, campus visitors, and community members:

As expected, there have now been positive cases of COVID-19 confirmed in the county that Abcott Institute serves. Abcott Institute is now executing planned response measures and working with local, state and federal agencies to minimize the spread of the virus and safeguard those considered high risk. The safety and wellbeing of our students, employees, campus visitors, and community members remains our number one priority.

What we are working on at the campus level.

As of now, we are still planning on conducting classroom instruction on campus. However, we are currently working on an online curriculum which will be used if needed by our student population in the near future.

But as of now, classes will resume as normal on Monday March 16th.

Below is more information on the coronavirus and additional websites you can access for further information.

Who is at higher risk of Coronavirus?

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), early information out of China, where COVID-19 first started, shows that some people are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. This includes:

Older adults

People who have serious chronic medical conditions like:

Heart disease

Diabetes

Lung disease

The majority of Abcott Institute students and employees do not fall into the category of high risk; however, we all have a moral obligation to protect those that are high risk. Therefore, we must all work together to minimize the spread of all germs. Below are measures we can all take:

Common sense precautions can be taken to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Person-to-person spread of COVID-19 appears to spread via respiratory transmission. Symptoms are similar to those of influenza (e.g., fever, cough, and shortness of breath). The current outbreak is occurring during a time of year when respiratory illnesses from influenza and other viruses are highly prevalent. We all need to do what we can to stop the spread of infections.

Remain at home if you are sick, except to seek medical care.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are unavailable.

Cover cough with a tissue or sleeve.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Social Distancing Measures:

Stop the handshakes, hugs, and personal contact at school or work.

If you are at higher risk of becoming seriously ill from the COVID-19, speak to your instructor or supervisor to determine how you may be able to complete school assignments or work from home.

Avoid large crowds and minimize close contact with others, especially if they are showing signs of illness.

Communicate: Abcott Institute will continue to update this webpage in order to communicate new information relating to COVID-19, but we need your help too. Students and employees should communicate with their instructor or supervisor if they are ill. Most importantly, please notify your campus administration immediately if you test positive for COVID-19 or are officially quarantined due to being exposed to COVID-19.

The web resources below provide important information regarding COVID-19. Further, your local health department is another important resource to contact if you have questions or concerns.

[Michigan Department of Health and Human Services](#)

[Connecticut Department of Public Health](#)

[Center for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#)

[US Department of Education](#)

[US Department of State \(Travel Advisories\)](#)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)