



# COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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## Health Advisory for Educational Settings with International Students and Instructors

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### Outbreak of 2019 Novel Coronavirus in Wuhan, China

#### ***Current Situation***

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. There have been hundreds of confirmed cases in China. A limited number of cases have been reported in other countries, including two cases in the United States who had recently traveled to Wuhan. Although the risk of infection with 2019-nCoV is very low for the average Californian at this time, Monterey County Health Department urges schools with international students and instructors to take steps now to be able to identify, isolate, and report individuals potentially ill with 2019-nCoV.

#### ***Recommendations for Educational Settings with International Students and Instructors***

As with any novel pathogen, guidance may change suddenly and frequently.

- **Provide information** to students, instructors, and host families about 2019-nCoV (see attached).
- **Ask students, instructors, and host families who have traveled to Wuhan, China, within the last 14 days to self-monitor** for signs and symptoms of 2019-nCoV, which include fever ( $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$  F) and lower respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, chest pain). Other symptoms can include headache, sore throat, and nasal congestion.
- Individuals who have traveled to Wuhan, China, in the last 14 days (or have had close contact with an ill person who traveled to Wuhan, China, in the last 14 days) AND have fever with lower respiratory symptoms should:
  - Call ahead before visiting a doctor's office, urgent care center, or hospital emergency department.
  - Stay home except to seek medical care. As much as possible, the person should stay in a different room away from other people in the household or dormitory and use a separate bathroom. If a sick person cannot be in their own room, they should wear a surgical mask.
- **Contact the Monterey County Health Department.** Call 831-755-4521 during normal business hours and 831-755-5100 after normal business hours. When calling the after-hours line, ask for the Hazardous Materials Team, who will transfer you to the on-call Health Officer.

For more information about 2019-nCoV, please contact the Monterey County Health Department's Communicable Disease Unit at 831-755-4521. Additional information is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

**Health Alert:** Warrants immediate action or attention. **Health Advisory:** Provides information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action. **Health Update:** Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.