

### **The University of Arkansas at Monticello** Office of the Dean of Students

Dear UAM Students,

At this point, you have no doubt seen communication from the University announcing the plan for all instruction to move to a virtual setting beginning March 12 until at least Monday, March 30. **This means that there will be no face-to-face classes meeting at any of our campuses until after spring break.** You should check Blackboard and your university email regularly for updates from your faculty on how to proceed in each of your courses. Those students who have limited internet access away from campus are asked to discuss their situation with their individual faculty member.

# It is important to note that administration is not aware of any confirmed cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) among any UAM students, faculty, or staff.

The status of COVID-19 is changing rapidly. It was designated just yesterday as a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO). Please know that these decisions - like moving classes online and reducing the number of people on campus by asking residents to move home – are not made lightly, and are made with the aim of protecting our campuses, our communities, and you. UAM's decision comes at a time when many universities and organizations have scaled back activities to limit the impact of this virus across the nation. **To this end, I am encouraging you to stay home and avoid unnecessary campus visits.** 

# For those residents who cannot travel or do not have a viable place to go, campus housing will remain open. In order to remain on campus, students will need to do the following:

- 1. Submit a Campus Closing Housing Request form at the following link: <u>http://bit.ly/3cQQqtZ</u>.
- 2. Await approval from Residence Life. Requests based on extenuating personal circumstances will be reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis.
- 3. Follow the CDC recommendations for protecting yourself and others (e.g., handwashing, avoiding close contact, staying home, covering coughs and sneezes). That information can be found at <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention.html</a>.

### Here are some changes taking place between now and at least Monday, March 30:

- All student programs and activities have been cancelled.
- All intramural sports and recreation activities have been cancelled and all recreational facilities are closed.
- All intercollegiate athletic events and practices have been cancelled.
- The Fred J. Taylor Library will not be open. Specific information on available services will be provided as soon as possible.
- The Student Success Center tutoring lab will not be open.
- The following computer labs will remain open and available to students with limited internet access at home:

- Monticello Student Success Center, Room 202
- McGehee Career Pathways Lab, Room 114
- Crossett Main Building, Room 105
- Institutional and federal work study students will not report to work. Graduate assistants and employees of third-party vendors may continue to report to work.
- Dining services will remain open in a limited capacity, providing prepared meals in the University Center at designated times. Specific information will be provided as soon as possible.

Understanding the unique needs that our students are feeling in this time, the following campus resources stand ready to assist those who are in need:

- **Counseling Services** is offering in-person counseling services are available for students in need. Appointments can be scheduled online through the following link: <u>http://bit.ly/UAM-Counseling</u>. Call (870) 460-1554 if you have any questions.
- Health Services appointments may be made by calling (870) 460-1051 or by emailing <u>Richardson@uamont.edu</u>.
- Academic Advising virtual appointments may be made by calling (870) 460-1633 or by emailing Advising@uamont.edu.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your cooperation and understanding as we keep our university community safe. We all have a shared responsibility to maintain good health and decrease the potential impacts of COVID-19. As the situation continues to develop, we will continue to update you via email. We will also be updating UAM's COVID-19 information, located at <a href="http://bit.ly/UAM-COVID-19">http://bit.ly/UAM-COVID-19</a>. Please continue to check your email. If you have questions, please email me using this link.

Sincerely,

#### Michael J. Davila

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