

Mark T. Brainard, President

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: All Delaware Tech Employees and Students

FROM: Dr. Brainard, President

DATE: March 13, 2020

RE: College-sponsored Travel

Dental Health Center Operations (Wilmington Campus)

**Athletics** 

As announced during my collegewide coronavirus update earlier today, the College is instituting the following precautions to help mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus:

## College-sponsored travel

I am suspending all College-sponsored out-of-state travel through March 31, 2020. Senior-level College administrators are meeting daily to monitor, assess, and respond to the pandemic, so this directive may be modified at a later date based upon subsequent developments. The College will continue to support in-state travel for business purposes until further notice; however, we encourage everyone in the College community to assess whether in-state travel is essential and to explore options to join meetings or events remotely through the use of available technology.

## **Dental Health Center Operations**

I am suspending all non-emergency treatment of patients at the Wilmington Dental Health Center until further notice. The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Dental Association have not released guidelines for clinical education programs at this time. While our protective equipment and sterilization procedures are normally appropriate, we are aware that dentistry and hygiene procedures generate blood, saliva, and most notably aerosolize these fluids that can contain the virus. Students are still learning proper hygiene procedures and the use of personal protective equipment, and we are not confident that students can be expected or trusted to maintain the level of hygiene that is required at this time.

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Routine cleanings and emergency procedures are not covered by this directive and may continue as part of the clinical learning experience. Patients seeking these procedures will be required to certify that they have not traveled to a level 2 or level 3 country or sailed on a cruise ship over the previous 14 days and are not otherwise experiencing symptoms of COVID-19. This directive does not impact operations at the dental health center located on the Dover Air Force Base, which does not perform the type of dentistry procedures offered at the Wilmington Campus center.

## **Athletics**

In light of the continued conversations surrounding the fluidity of COVID-19 and the prohibition on College-sponsored out-of-state travel instituted today, all Delaware Tech athletic competitions and practices have been suspended until further notice.

All scholarships will be honored for student athletes, and all support services for student athletes will continue in place. Coach's contracts will be paid in full, and coaches are expected to perform related responsibilities that they are able to perform under this directive and other applicable restrictions/limitations applicable to all College operations during the remainder of the spring semester, such as recruiting.

This guidance supersedes previous communications on this topic and is subject to change as warranted as the situation develops.