

## **UPDATE: COVID-19 031720**

The Emergency Operations Team and its committees continue to meet daily to discuss the evolving impacts of COVID-19. The following information is subject to change.

### ***Campus Status***

There are no known cases of the virus on campus. To help maintain the health and wellbeing of the Minneapolis College community, the campus is transitioning, largely, to operating remotely. Students will resume their studies primarily through online environments on March 30. Most employees will transition to telework arrangements by the end of this week. Division leaders are working with their staff and the Human Resources Division to plan how they will work remotely and provide remote services to students. The Information Technology Services Division is providing training for staff, faculty and administrators on how to use Zoom, a video conferencing tool, in T.3600 during regular business hours. And, in T.3700, they are providing hardware, software and any other technology necessary for remote work. While as many employees as possible are shifting to remote work, the campus will continue providing essential core services to students. The core services that require an on-campus presence are being identified. Employees who perform those services will transition to staggered (remote work and on campus work) shifts when possible to help ensure the campus practices social distancing and utilizes other protective measures.

### ***Support Services***

Additional resources are available:

- [Boynton Student Health Clinic](#) provides healthcare services by medical professionals on campus to all enrolled Minneapolis College students. Most services are provided at no cost to students.
- For information about food pantries, food closets, food banks, soup kitchens, congregate meal locations, food boxes and vouchers, visit [foodpantries.org](http://foodpantries.org).
- For online mental health resources, visit [Telewell](#) online or call 612-584-0077 or visit [Synergy Therapy](#) online or call 612-642-1355.
- [Hennepin County](#) and [Walk-In Counseling Center](#) provide in-person mental health services.
- The Crisis Text Line offers free help to those who are having a mental health crisis or are contemplating suicide. Just text "MN" to 741741. Services are available 24/7 across Minnesota.
- Call the National Suicide Prevention Line at 1-800-279-TALK (8255).
- Hennepin County residents can call COPE (Community Outreach for Psychiatric Emergencies) 24/7 at 612-596-1223.

### ***Reminders***

- Spring classes resume March 30.
- Through March 29, campus will be open from 6:30 a.m. until 7 p.m. weekdays and closed on weekends.
- Minnesota Management and Budget updated its guidance regarding when employees should self-quarantine.

- Many campus events and activities are being cancelled or postponed over the coming weeks
- Dunn Brothers' extended spring break hours are Mondays through Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. until noon.
- Tiffin Man, open weekdays from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. through the extended spring break, is partnering with the college to provide a 50 percent discount on meal deals and burger combos to take-out diners with a valid Minneapolis College ID card. Customers without Minneapolis College ID cards will pay full price. Add-on items are available at full price. A new Meal Deal will be offered each week throughout this time.

### ***Recommendations***

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water. For general office work, gloves are not recommended to prevent the transfer of COVID-19. Handwashing is the recommended practice. Additional handwashing information can be found [here](#) including a [video](#) on how to wash hands properly.
- The use of surgical masks or respirators as a preventive measure for the general public is not recommended. These are typically used in clinical settings to prevent spread of diseases from ill patients to healthcare workers who are in close contact with them.
- Stay at home when sick.
- Cover coughing and sneezing with the inside of an elbow.
- Implement social distancing measures such as communicating via phone, text or online rather than in person whenever it is appropriate.
- Practice [respiratory \(coughing and sneezing\) etiquette](#) and [hand hygiene](#).
- Students can visit the [Boynton Student Health Clinic](#) website or in person at H.3400 or contact them by phone at 612-659-6384 regarding any health concerns.
- Contact the [Minnesota Department of Health](#) or a primary care physician for additional information.

### ***Additional Resources***

When visiting these websites, be sure to refresh the browser with each visit as information is updated frequently:

- [Minneapolis.edu COVID-19 landing page](#)
- [Minnesota State Coronavirus Disease Information landing page](#)
- [MDH](#)
- [CDC](#)
- [Minnesota Management and Budget](#)