

Dear Minneapolis College community,

Minneapolis College has been notified of a lab-confirmed case of COVID-19 in a member of our campus community. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), working with college staff and faculty, has determined the risk of exposure to other individuals on campus was low, meaning the risk to other students, staff and faculty was no greater than the risk for contracting the virus in the general public.

This is Minneapolis College's first confirmed case of COVID-19 in someone who was on campus. We are thankful it was reported immediately when a positive test was confirmed. I understand that this may create concerns across our campus community. Additional cleaning and sanitizing on campus has been done, notifications have been made to those who were in contact with the individual and staff is working closely with MDH to monitor the situation. I hope for a speedy recovery for the individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19.

We are asking all members of our community to minimize the spread of illness by taking the following actions to protect yourself and others:

- Face coverings are required on campus
- Wash hands often with soap and water
- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- If you are sick, stay home
- Be prepared in case you get sick and need to stay home by keeping enough food, prescription medications and other necessities on hand
- Frequently clean all commonly touched surfaces such as telephones, doorknobs, countertops
- Maintain physical distancing as much as possible by keeping six feet of distance between other individuals
- Avoid large gatherings

If symptoms develop, stay home and consult with your physician to determine if medical evaluation is needed. If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, MDH recommends:

1. Staying at home for at least 10 days, and for three days with no fever and improvement of other symptoms. Your fever should be gone for three days without using fever-reducing medicine.
2. Use the CDC website on how to [Care for yourself at Home](#) with COVID-19.
3. If your household contacts were exposed to you while you had symptoms, they should quarantine for 14 days.

Resources that you may find valuable are:

- MDH Coronavirus: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>
- MDH If You Are Sick: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sick.html>
- CDC Coronavirus: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

As testing for this virus continues, we expect to see additional confirmed cases being reported within our campus community. I can assure you that our faculty and staff are wholly dedicated to ensuring a healthy campus environment. Many steps are being taken to help minimize the impacts of COVID-19.

To report a confirmed case or share your concerns, please email healthresponse@minneapolis.edu. We will respond appropriately. Please join our staff and faculty in our commitment to maintaining a healthy campus environment by taking the suggested precautions. Together, we will ensure operations continue at Minneapolis College.

Sincerely,

Sharon Pierce