

4/27/2020

For Immediate Release to all:

In an effort to comply with The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, this information is being shared per the University's emergency notification procedure.

To all Members of the West Texas A&M University Community:

The welfare and safety of our community during this time is our primary concern. President Wendler and other university administrators have been in contact with you regularly relating developments of how COVID-19 has affected the WTAMU campus community. The communications have relayed developments and recommended practices relating to COVID-19 and the University's established central website dedicated for all COVID-19 updates at www.wtamu.edu/coronavirus. This communication provides the required federal warning related to COVID-19.

On April 26, 2020 University officials were notified that an essential employee of WTAMU has tested positive for COVID-19. The employee had worked on campus during the week of April 20th and was last on campus Thursday, April 23th. It is known the employee was in direct contact with mail distribution on campus. Before exhibiting symptoms, the employee used hand sanitizer regularly. The other employees in that area have been notified and have self-quarantined out of an abundance of caution. The work space was cleaned and sanitized by SSC on Sunday, April 26, 2020.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at CDC.gov/Frequently Asked Questions provided: "Am I at Risk for COVID-19 from mail, packages, or products - There is still a lot that is unknown about COVID-19 and how it spreads. Coronaviruses are thought to be spread most often by respiratory droplets. Although the virus can survive for a short period on some surfaces, it is unlikely to be spread from domestic or international mail, products or packaging. However, it may be possible that people can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads." It is recommended to follow the CDC's general advice for protecting yourself from the coronavirus and wash your hands thoroughly after handling the mail.

Ongoing updates regarding West Texas A&M University's actions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic will be posted on www.wtamu.edu/coronavirus.