

Update to UA System's COVID-19 Interim Emergency Policy Statement

March 9, 2020

The University of Alabama System is closely monitoring the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak. The health, safety, and well-being of our students and community is our top priority. At this time, there are no confirmed COVID-19 cases in the State. We will continue to monitor the situation, and rely on advice from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), and our experts. The interim travel policy, including any related policy updates, is subject to change as the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak continue to evolve.

UPDATE (Effective now through at least March 31):

- **International Travel**

The UA System's [Interim Emergency Travel Policy](#) remains in effect through March 31, 2020. If warranted, the UA System will consider waivers on a limited basis for students, faculty, and staff. The UA System continues to discourage all personal international travel at this time.

- **Domestic Travel**

The UA System advises against any non-essential domestic travel at this time, particularly to large conferences with attendees from multiple states or to states or locales that have declared a State of Emergency / Public Health Emergency due to the virus. Please use good judgment when making travel decisions, and work with campus administration to evaluate available alternatives (i.e., live-streaming for conference sessions and meetings). We are encouraging attendance by remote or virtual means.

Students, faculty, and staff who have concerns about being exposed to the virus while traveling should not be required to travel. Likewise, any student, faculty, or staff member who elects not to attend a previously scheduled event due to those concerns should not be disciplined.

- **Normal Campus Operations to Continue**

Academic classes and dining operations will continue as normal. Each campus should review its cleaning procedures to ensure they are up-to-day and consistent with the [CDC Recommendations for Institutions of Higher Education](#).