

## ALL UNIVERSITY MESSAGE

Dear UNM community -

As you have heard, several cases of coronavirus, or COVID-19, have been confirmed in New Mexico. We want you to know this is a serious concern, not just to the University, but to our state.

Governor Lujan Grisham has declared a state public health emergency, though she has not specifically recommended closing schools or universities. UNM has already taken steps to reduce potential transmission of the virus and flatten the curve by restricting travel, cancelling large events, evaluating possibilities to change instructional methods, and carefully following health protocols outlined by the Centers for Disease Control.

Things are changing quickly, however, so please keep checking [our dedicated COVID-19 website](#) for up-to-date information on decisions we're making here at UNM that could affect you. The well-being of our students and entire campus community is our highest priority when considering the implications of our actions. It is impossible to speculate even a few days ahead so we won't elaborate on the broad-ranging scenarios that may emerge, but know that nearly all of the potential precautions you have read or heard about are being evaluated.

We're working with state health officials and the Governor's office to respond quickly and effectively to concerns about the public health of our community. We need everyone's help because this virus is particularly tricky and has the potential to spread through populations at an exponential rate. But we can all do our part to keep that from happening, by following all guidelines for remaining healthy and dealing appropriately with symptoms.

Our clinical facilities are prepared to receive patients with COVID-19, but please call the NM Department of Health COVID-19 hotline at 1-855-600-3453 before visiting a local health care clinic. Again, I encourage you to bookmark and review the [official university COVID-19 website](#) for the latest news and information about UNM's policies and actions.



March 12, 2020

**As the University for New Mexico, we are dedicated to the students, patients, citizens and communities we serve.** So many UNM offices and individuals have been working incredibly hard behind the scenes over the past weeks to adapt our policies and operations to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. **As Lobos, we are a resilient community.** We protect and support the pack, and apply creative problem solving to our greatest challenges. My deepest gratitude to the entire University community for your compassion, innovation and courage in addressing this serious public health concern that is affecting us all.

Sincerely,

Garnett S. Stokes  
President

