



SUBJECT: Student Notification

DATE: March 14, 2020

Dear NDNU Community Members,

We want to acknowledge the feelings of anger, frustration, and fear you have expressed as we all make every effort to chart unknown ground on a global scale during the coronavirus pandemic. NDNU is experiencing what many other institutions of higher learning across the country are going through, and our nation as a whole. We also want to express our gratitude to the many families and advocates of our students as well as members of external organizations who have acknowledged our efforts to prioritize our students and their well-being. Thank you.

As we learn more, hour by hour, we make every effort to focus our decision-making on the best interests of our students and community members. Just yesterday, Friday, March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a national emergency. We are currently evaluating the situation and any additional changes will be announced via our webpage. We hope we have your understanding that responding to all individual communications may not be possible at this time and we apologize in advance. We encourage you to check this webpage regularly.

The housing decision and communication on March 12, 2020, directing our students not to return to campus from spring break, was delivered with a sense of urgency to prompt our students to secure off-campus housing as soon as possible. International and out-of-state students were prioritized and notified. Every request for an exception has been reviewed and those students needing extensions are continuously being considered. Exceptions have been granted for all known instances where the health and safety of the student is compromised if s/he cannot stay in the residence halls. All international students who have submitted requests have been accommodated.

The global coronavirus crisis is of such magnitude, however, that we ask students who are currently on campus to make contingency plans should that be required as the situation continues to develop. Fortunately, there are no cases of coronavirus now on campus, but we have to be prepared should this situation change. As a further measure to minimize the impact of the epidemic on our community, we have cancelled athletic and programming events as we prepare for online learning to begin next week.

Based on the feedback we received from our students, we also communicated via our website on March 13 that we will be reimbursing each resident student for housing and meal plan costs not incurred. We understand that each student affected wants to know the impact on his/her individual account. We hope to post this information by April 5, 2020. Until then, we ask for your patience as we also consider the needs of our staff and their families. In addition, we shared that residential students are allowed to access their personal items by notifying housing in advance. Please contact Annabelle Bautista at agbautista or call (650) 508-3759.

In our continuing effort to keep our students safe, we ask students with exceptions in our residence halls to follow [CDC preparation recommendations](#)