

Dear Students:

As we navigate these unprecedented events and their impact on the entire College community, I want to thank you for your patience and flexibility. Much has changed in the last 48 hours since my last email to you.

A number of important developments have occurred statewide and across the country as the pandemic evolves. Many states are beginning to adopt more stringent measures to control the spread of the disease to lessen the intensity and impact on our already strained health care systems. This is a very serious situation and we all need to do our part to reduce the spread of this very contagious virus.

As a result of these developments, we have made the difficult decision to continue classes online until the end of the semester. Where possible, support services will be delivered remotely.

Effective at close of business today, Friday, March 20, 2020, no faculty, staff, or student should come to any campus location (Cumberland Campus, Bedford County Campus, Gateway Center, Bedford County Technical Center, Garrett County Nursing Site, and Somerset Education Site). This will remain in effect through at least Sunday, April 12, 2020. There will be no face-to-face classes or on-site student services. A decision about the status of campus operations will be announced on or before Wednesday, April 8, 2020. Willowbrook Woods will remain open to student residents.

Non-credit classes and training through the ACM Center for Continuing Education and Workforce Development are suspended until further notice. For additional information, please contact Jeff Kirk at jkirk@allegany.edu.

Our hope is to minimize, to the greatest extent possible, the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on your education or career training. With this decision, I want to provide additional updates and highlight important information:

Online Courses

- Your instructors have been asked to prepare for no face-to-face class meetings for the remainder of the semester.
- Additional information regarding clinical and laboratory programs will be provided at a later date.
- Please check in with your faculty members if you have questions about your online coursework or concerns about your online access.
- If you're new to taking online classes, now is the time to take our self-paced "Brightspace for Learners" tutorial. To access the online registration form, login at allegany.brightspace.com with your ACM email and username.
- Technical support is available 24/7 through Brightspace.

Tutoring and Testing

- The Testing Lab is now closed.
- ACM staff is continuing to provide tutoring services through online platforms.
- Online tutoring is available through ThinkingStorm from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily at www.thinkingstorm.com/acm/.
- Questions about tutoring and testing may be directed to Connie Clifton at cclifton@allegany.edu.

Student Services

- ACM staff is available to answer questions, advise you on your courses, connect you with accommodations and disability resources, address billing questions, and discuss financial aid and scholarship options, etc.
- Information about registration for summer and fall classes will be provided at a later date.
- Email Jennifer Engelbach at jengelbach@allegany.edu in lieu of in-person meetings.
- We will also utilize online platforms like Live Chat, GoToMeeting, and/or Skype.

Site Access

- With the closures of our campuses and extension sites, all of our buildings are now closed to students, employees, and the public.

Willowbrook Woods Student Housing

- Willowbrook Woods residents are being contacted by Residence Life Staff with additional updates and information.
- Residents with questions should email willowbrookwoods@allegany.edu.

Events

- All internal and external events hosted at ACM are canceled or postponed until further notice.
- Plans for commencement exercises and other future college events and activities will be decided by Wednesday, April 15, 2020.

Stay Healthy

- Your mental health and well-being is important to us during this time.
- Remote counseling services information is available for students at www.allegany.edu/coronavirus/documents/Student-Counseling-Program-QRG-Covid-19-2020-1.pdf.

Stay Connected

- Please continue to monitor our website's coronavirus page at www.allegany.edu/coronavirus.
- Check your student email for the most current information.
- Contact us with your questions by emailing info@allegany.edu.

On behalf of our entire College community, thank you again for your flexibility, persistence, and resilience. Take care of yourself and your own physical and emotional health and well-being, and reach out to us with your concerns. I am certain that we will all emerge from this challenge even stronger.

Thank you,
Dr. Cynthia Bambara
ACM President