



SPECIAL REPORT

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Southwest launches coronavirus webpage; ramps up PAWS training for faculty

Southwest Tennessee Community College continues to closely monitor the coronavirus outbreak. Thursday, March 5, Governor Bill Lee announced the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Tennessee. In response to this development, Lee opened the Coronavirus Public Information Hotline at 877-857-2945. The line is open daily, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Southwest also is taking steps to ensure that 1) we take the most effective safety precautions possible as laid out in our [Emergency Response Plan](#) and 2) that you are informed of our efforts to protect the campus community and beyond. We have launched a [special website for coronavirus](#) news. The site contains College news and updates and an FAQ, along with videos and printable materials from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Please check it often to stay abreast of the College's response.

Second coronavirus seminar is March 18 at noon

Associate Professor of Microbiology Dr. Ziba Hooshdaran will conduct her second coronavirus seminar entitled "What You Need to Know About Novel Coronavirus: An Update" March 18 at noon in the Farris Auditorium on the Macon Cove Campus. Dr. Hooshdaran will provide the latest news on the outbreak and share steps you can take to protect yourself and others from infection.

In addition, the College also will provide an 8-minute Transmissible Illness Prevention webinar. Early next week, [Vivid Learning Systems](#), the College's online training provider, will email faculty and staff a webinar invitation that contains instructions on how to access the course. Please be on the lookout in your email inbox for an email from customerservice@learnatvivid.com.



Faculty PAWS training sessions begin next week

Southwest faculty are asked to plan ahead for potential disruption in classes schedules should the outbreak escalate locally. Faculty should establish a contingency plan for classes and student assignments and ramp up the usage of [PAWS](#), the College's distance learning platform. This platform would enable the College to continue to serve students in the event a faculty member is unavailable for an extended time by providing access to grade books and other pertinent information. PAWS also enables faculty to provide course assignments online in the event a student cannot physically attend class. Academic Affairs also is providing PAWS instruction and professional development opportunities through [Digital Learning](#) and is seeking to train more faculty to deliver PAWS training. Faculty may become PAWS certified by visiting the "Online Teaching Certification" section under the PAWS Faculty Development Course tab and completing the course. For those faculty who prefer in-person instruction, Digital Learning will hold open labs on the Macon Cove Campus in the Freeman Building, Room 220, beginning next week on the following dates:

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SESSION TIME</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SESSION TIME</u>
Monday	March 9	1 p.m. – 4 p.m.	Thursday	March 19	9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Thursday	March 12	1 p.m. – 4 p.m.	Monday	March 23	9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Monday	March 16	9 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Tuesday	March 24	1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Tuesday	March 17	1 p.m. – 4 p.m.	Wednesday	March 25	4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Wednesday	March 18	4 p.m. – 7 p.m.	Thursday	March 26	9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

No registration is necessary, just walk in. For more information about the Distance Learning PAWS training, email distance@southwest.tn.edu or dial 901-333-4612.

Rest assured that Southwest is taking steps to minimize the spread of viruses throughout the campus and is prepared for a broad range of contingencies should the outbreak reach pandemic proportions. In addition, the College continues to follow the guidance of the U.S. Department of State, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Out of an abundance of caution, we aim to safeguard each member of the Southwest family through education. We urge all employees to participate in the provided safety webinar.

Remember to practice good hand washing hygiene and encourage your fellow students, faculty and staff to do the same. Stay tuned to email, social media, RAVE and the College's Coronavirus website for updates and announcements.

Custodial Services continues safety upgrades

Southwest's custodial services team members continue to ramp up infection control measures and already are undergoing infection control cleaning methods training. The College also is procuring new cleaning products that meet the most recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines and sanitizer stations are being maintained with new dispensers on order to be placed in every restroom at Southwest locations.

Natural Sciences Seminar Series and
Southwest Science Club present

What You Need to Know About 2019 Novel Coronavirus: An Update

MARCH 18

NOON - 1PM

FARRIS AUDITORIUM - MACON COVE CAMPUS

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Presenter:

Dr. Ziba Hooshdaran

Associate Professor of Microbiology





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TDH ANNOUNCES FIRST CASE OF COVID-19 IN TENNESSEE

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The Tennessee Department of Health has received positive test results for a case of the COVID-19 novel coronavirus in Tennessee. The TDH State Public Health Laboratory tested the individual, and has submitted results to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for confirmation. The patient is an adult male from Williamson County who had recently traveled out-of-state. The patient has a mild illness and is isolated at home.

“We are working closely with local health care partners to identify contacts and contain spread of this disease in our communities,” said Tennessee Health Commissioner Lisa Piercey, MD, MBA, FAAP. “We’ve been anticipating identification of COVID-19 cases in Tennessee. At this time, the overall risk to the general public remains low. We are continuing to work with the CDC and other agencies to provide guidance to Tennesseans to protect their health.”

Most patients with confirmed COVID-19 infection have mild respiratory illness with fever, cough and shortness of breath. A smaller number of patients have severe symptoms requiring hospitalization. COVID-19 is not currently widespread in the United States, so no additional precautions are recommended for the general public to take beyond normal practices to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses. These include:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing
- Don’t touch your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands
- Stay home if you are sick
- Stay away from people who are sick

TDH has launched a Tennessee Coronavirus Public Information Line effective at 10 a.m. Central time today in partnership with the Tennessee Poison Center. The hotline number is **877-857-2945** and will be available from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Central daily.

People with concerns about their health should contact their health care providers. TDH has additional information available at www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov.html. The CDC has updated information and guidance available online at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html.

The mission of the Tennessee Department of Health is to protect, promote and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee. Learn more about TDH services and programs at www.tn.gov/health.

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This news release can be accessed online at www.tn.gov/health/news.html.
Connect with TDH on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) @TNDeptofHealth!