

Coronavirus Information *Original post: Wed 1/29/2020 at 4:26 PM*

Dear Members of the Westminster Community,

The U.S. Department of State and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov> have issued alerts related to the coronavirus respiratory illness, which was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. At this time, there are no reported cases of coronavirus in the state of Missouri or in connection with Westminster College.

While the immediate health risk to the American public and Westminster community is considered low at this time, it is important for the College to become educated about the virus. The World Health Organization <https://www.who.int/> and CDC believe coronavirus spreads in the same manner as other respiratory viruses. Its symptoms include fever, cough and difficulty breathing.

With flu season upon us, the CDC recommends that everyone engage in behaviors that help prevent the spread of disease: Wash hands regularly, practice cough etiquette — maintain distance and cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your flexed elbow — and take all necessary measures to avoid the spread of illness, including getting a flu shot.

As always, students, faculty and staff can access the Wellness Center, located in the basement of Westminster Hall, to discuss any symptoms of illness they are experiencing. Flu shots also are available. Simply call our office at [592-5361](tel:592-5361) or stop in during regular business hours, [8 a.m. to 5 p.m.](#) For the most up-to-date information on the coronavirus, we recommend you access the CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/> and World Health Organization <https://www.who.int/> websites.

Here's to a healthy, happy semester!