

Douglas Education Center (DEC) Institutional Response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

March 16, 2020

Dear Members of the DEC Community:

I would like to continue to update you on the steps we are taking to continue to ensure the safety and well-being of all our students, faculty, and staff. We are living in extraordinary times and we are learning more about COVID-19 every day, and every hour in many cases. We are working on updating our policies and contingency plans as we await further guidance from our governmental bodies and regulatory agencies.

We are attending a state-wide scheduled conference call with the PA Department of Education, State Board of Private Licensed Schools (PLS) at 1:15 PM this afternoon to vote on new policies to provide our school with the flexibility to make the best decisions for our students over the next ninety (90) days.

We appreciate your understanding through this uncertain time, and know that we will continue to update you immediately as we learn more and are able to make the appropriate decisions based on the regulations pertaining to our institution.

In the interim, we are continuing to do all we can to ensure everyone's safety, as outlined in our March 12, 2020 memo. This information is added to our website at www.dec.edu/coronavirus. Most importantly, in the event of students feeling ill or developing viral symptoms, they are not to attend class and can communicate with their instructors through the email address and any other communicative methods distributed by the instructor. Students who are forced to miss class because of illness due to COVID-19 or suspected symptoms will not have their grades penalized. Each instructor has a plan for his or her course based on the content, format, and projects/work being completed at a specific point in time.

More information will be conveyed to our DEC community before the close of business today once we hear more from our regulatory bodies. DEC continues to direct everyone's attention to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the US Department of Health and Human Services, and the US Department of Education for the best information and productive strategies. The resources we have found useful regarding coronavirus that you might also find helpful include the following:

- a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- b. <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>
- c. <https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus>
- d. <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

Please continue to stay safe and take care of yourselves. We truly believe we will come out of this stronger than ever, together.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey D. Imbrescia
CEO / President