

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

May 20, 2020 - 5:00pm

Dear DEC Students:

PA Governor Tom Wolf has a three-phase plan for reopening the state. Those phases are RED, YELLOW, and GREEN, and the phases are implemented by county.

- The **RED** phase is the lockdown phase in which all non-essential businesses were closed and the stay-at-home order was in place for all residents.
- The **YELLOW** phase ends the stay-at-home order and allows for the opening of some businesses, although DEC is not yet included in those businesses granted permission to be open.
- The **GREEN** phase is the open phase, at which point DEC can be open again.

On May 15, Westmoreland & Fayette Counties (where DEC's campuses are located) were moved into the YELLOW phase. While this YELLOW phase does not allow for the opening of the school, it does provide the forward momentum getting us one step closer to opening.

At this point, much pressure is being applied to the governor's office by all schools in our sector and by our governing bodies to allow DEC and schools like ours to either be open in the YELLOW phase or to expedite movement into the GREEN phase. Currently, we do not have any definitive answers on opening at this point; however, we remain hopeful at this time that we will be able to open for our normally scheduled summer semester on June 5 and will post updated information as soon as it becomes available to us.

Safety continues to be our number one priority for every member of our DEC community. We appreciate everyone's understanding and adaptability throughout these troubling and uncertain times. We believe that we are in the home stretch of this interruption to all of our lives, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to campus again. Keep your spirits up, continue to support and look out for one another, and take pride in your education. We will communicate more information to you as it becomes available and updated.

For additional information on the status of the state of PA, visit <http://governor.pa.gov>