Rush University
COVID-19 Update

This emergency notification to all members of the Rush University community is to comply with the federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act).

Members of the Rush University Community,

The health, safety and well-being of everyone who is part of our community is our top priority. With that concern, we are writing to inform you of recent events relative to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and summarize actions taken to this point.

Over the past month, we have sought to continually provide you with updates in the form of emails, videos, social media posts, and media briefings about Rush University’s response to and preparedness for COVID-19. The latest information about actions taken and information about the virus can be found at https://www.rushu.rush.edu/about/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-information. The site is updated daily and often several times a day.

Concerns and questions should be sent to University_News@rush.edu. Inquiries will be triaged and sent to the appropriate party. Rush University continually monitors this inbox and will respond as quickly and comprehensively as possible.

This communication is part of a federally required safety notification related to COVID-19.

Given what we know about COVID-19, our size, and the presence of the University connected to the medical center, there is a high probability that members of our community have been exposed to and/or contracted the virus. Here is what we know as of today:

• The majority of staff and faculty members are working remotely;

• There are individuals who have tested positive and self-reported these results. These individuals are following our established protocols and have been in self-isolation per CDC and Rush University Medical Center (RUMC) policy.

• Across the Rush system, we have screened 4,271 patients since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak. As we continue to screen and treat patients, 731 have tested positive. We currently have 135 admitted as inpatients across the system.

• There have been a total 7,695 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 157 deaths in IL, including: 5,575 cases and 107 deaths in Cook County. This includes 2,296 cases and 66 deaths in suburban Cook County, and 3,279 cases and 41 deaths in Chicago.

The most important health measure we can take as a community to stop the spread of COVID-19 is social distancing and proper hand hygiene. Social distancing saves lives.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is constantly updating its guidance on social distancing. To be sure you are getting up-to-date information, you should continuously check their website: www.cdc.gov. It is also important to stay updated on information and steps taken from federal, state and local governments to keep you safe. Visit idph.gov and https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/cdph.html for more information.

You should also be signed up for RU Alert so that we can communicate with you quickly. It is mandatory that you go to the RU Alert sign on page and provide up-to-date contact information.

Thank you for your attention to these issues and for your commitment to the health and safety of everyone in our community.