

## PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas A&M University System

## MEMORANDUM

To: PVAMU Campus Community

From: Ruth J. Simmons President

Date: April 1, 2020

Re: Governor Abbott's Executive Orders

Yesterday, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order GA-14, which allows only essential services in the state until April 30, 2020, and requires many businesses to close or severely limit operations.

The Office of General Counsel (OGC) within the Texas A&M System has reviewed Executive Order GA-14 and does not believe that it will have a significant impact on System member operations. Prairie View A&M University, in concert with all System institutions, is already complying with the order by delivering courses online, allowing non-essential personnel to work remotely and providing limited core services to those students remaining on campus.

We will continue to follow the Stay Home approach as previously directed. Employees should continue to work remotely, taking care to address inquiries and diligently carry out assignments from home. Essential employees, as identified in the previous announcement, will continue to operate under the specified guidelines.

It is important to note that the Executive Order specifies that institutions must adhere to guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<u>CDC</u>). Social distancing, refraining from large gatherings, and practicing proper hygiene are paramount to slowing the spread of COVID-19. To that end, PVAMU has put measures in place to ensure that the campus community stays 6 feet apart, placed signs throughout campus reminding people to wash their hands and cover their coughs, cleaned and sanitized campus facilities, and cancelled or postponed all campus events.

In this time of continuing uncertainty, I ask that you take great care, see to the welfare of family and friends, and draw renewed inspiration from the viability and resilience of this 144-year-old institution. In recalling the journey of Prairie View over the decades, we can all see a way through the turmoil and challenges of the current moment.

I look forward to seeing you all back on campus when the crisis eases and the government permits a resumption of workplace activity. Until then, I will keep you all in my thoughts.

Please visit the PVAMU Coronavirus Update site frequently for updated information.