



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas A&M University System


January 12, 2021

SPECIAL CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENT

Distributed via Campus Email

To: All PVAMU Employees

From: James M. Palmer 
Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Cynthia A. Carter-Horn 
Senior Vice President for Business Affairs

Re: Spring 2021 COVID-19 Employee Guidance

As you have heard, daily new COVID-19 cases have reached new levels. On Sunday, 4,053 positive tests were recorded in the region. During the 7-day period ending on Sunday, the Texas Medical Center (TMC) hospitals averaged 335 new COVID-19 hospitalizations per day.

Just prior to the release of those data sets, on January 6, 2021, Trauma Service Area Q, which includes Austin, Colorado, Fort Bend, Harris, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton counties, experienced seven (7) consecutive days in which the number of COVID-19 hospitalizations was 15% or higher. This is important for Prairie View because most of our students and employees reside in one of the affected counties. The high hospitalization rate due to COVID-19 is critical because it impacts the availability of healthcare resources for planned and unplanned life-threatening non-COVID-19 health needs such as surgeries and trauma care.

Unfortunately, the trends are headed in the wrong direction. Therefore, it is vitally important that we ALL participate in mitigating efforts to slow the spread of the virus in our campus community. Those efforts being as follows:

- Test to know your status:
 - Testing for employees is available on campus through Curative, and there are multiple sites available. Although there are risks of false negative results, the Texas A&M University System continues to rely on Curative because it offers a closed, secure supply chain, a simple test that does not require medical intervention and associated PPE, quick turnaround and a reasonable level of efficacy. Visit Curative's website at tamus.curativeinc.com to find a location near you.
 - If you test positive for COVID-19, stay home, report your results to the COVID-19 Hotline (936-261-9000), and receive instructions for isolation/quarantine; employees must be cleared prior to returning to work.
- **If you are sick or feel ill**, contact your supervisor **and stay home**. Recall from the two required TrainTraq courses your **continuing duty to self-monitor** and contact the COVID-19 Hotline and supervisor if the answer to any of the questions in the self-certification becomes "no". You are responsible for protecting yourself and others.

If you should have questions regarding leave options, please communicate with your supervisor as well as the Office of Human Resources Leave Team.

Cc: Ruth J. Simmons