Hello Ram Fam,

As of late, the global health emergency stemming from the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) has brought a number of changes to daily life. These changes have impacted the daily lives of WCU students, faculty and staff, and have required WCU to make significant changes to ensure the health and safety of our entire community.

Starting at 12am Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all nonessential businesses statewide have been temporarily closed. In addition, the Borough has enacted additional policies:

- Residential parking will respond to complaints.
- Police patrol and emergency services will respond.
- Non-essential retail facilities, including shopping malls
- Hair salons, nail salons, and spas
- Community and recreation centers, gyms, including yoga, spin, barre facilities
- Non-essential personal care businesses
- Religious and funeral facilities
- All events at Lehigh Valley Expo
- Non-essential public transportation
- Certain services provided by the Borough of West Chester
- The Borough of West Chester will be Rite-Aid on Gay St.

What preventative measures are being implemented in Pennsylvania per the Governor? Through Executive Order Number 11, the Governor has	issued the following preventative measures:

- No gatherings of 25 people or more, including religious services
- Restaurants, bars, and gathering places will be limited to 50% capacity
- All nonessential travel will be prohibited

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The following types of businesses, according to the Governor, are considered non-essential and are required to close or reduce their service levels to only provide for essential needs.

- Barbers, estheticians, nail salons, and similar personal care service providers
- Fitness centers
- Leisure activities
- Non-food retail stores

On March 19, the Governor ordered the closure of all bars and restaurants.

A message from Borough of West Chester Mayor Dianne Herrin to students

If you are staying on campus, please observe the following:

- Maintain a 6-foot distance from others as much as possible.
- Maintain contact with only a limited group of people.
- Avoid travel and gatherings.
- Wear a face mask. Certain individuals with medical conditions may be exempt from this requirement.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Practice good hygiene.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Limit the number of people you interact with and the amount of time you spend together.

Students have the responsibility to respect the rights and property of their neighbors. Tenants and property owners should work together to ensure that those who are physically present in the Borough are engaging in social distancing, practicing regular hand-washing, and avoiding large social gatherings. If you are hosting a large social gathering, please be aware that it could lead to the transmission of COVID-19.

We have been made aware that some students who have remained in the Borough of West Chester are engaging in social distancing, practicing regular hand-washing, and avoiding large social gatherings. We encourage you to continue to practice these important steps for the health and safety of our Borough.

In the event that you need to be around other people and are experiencing symptoms, please do not visit any of the following:

- Nurtures and Supportive Services
- Student Health Services
- Student Counseling Services
- Student Affairs
- Residential Life
- Student Ambassadors
- Faculty
- Staff
- Students

We can all help minimize the spread of COVID-19. Social distancing is an effective and important individual step that we can all take to help mitigate the spread.

What is social distancing?

Social distancing is the act of maintaining a social distance of 6 feet from others as much as possible. This is an important step that we can all take to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

What preventative measures are being implemented in Chester County? Through the Chester County Department of Health, it is recommended to refrain from social gatherings, including hosting at home, and to stay home if you are sick.

We ask that you continue to question your actions and decisions and ask yourself the following:

- Is it essential?
- Do I need to be there?
- Can I wait?
- Should I cancel?
- Can I cancel?
- Am I putting myself in danger?
- Am I putting others in danger?
- Am I causing a hardship?
- Am I causing a burden?
- Am I putting a burden on the health care system?
- Am I putting a burden on others?
- Am I causing unnecessary anxiety?
- Am I unnecessarily putting others at risk?
- Am I unnecessarily putting the health care system at risk?
- Am I unnecessarily putting myself at risk?
- Am I unnecessarily putting my neighbors at risk?
- Am I unnecessarily putting my family at risk?
- Am I unnecessarily putting my friends at risk?
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