



March 6, 2020

**Dear Huston-Tillotson University Community,**

As you begin preparing for next week's Midterm Examinations, I wanted to ensure that you are well aware of Huston-Tillotson University's proactive and preventative stance towards the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). I have convened an HT Pandemic Preparedness team, specifically for monitoring the state of the coronavirus and for enacting best practices on our campus, as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, state and local agencies.

HT serves a vital role in our greater Austin community, and I ask that you continue to remain vigilant in your daily efforts to prevent the spread of germs. Enumerated below, you will find guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to assist you in your efforts:

1. **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty;
2. **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick;
3. **Avoid touching** your eyes, nose, and mouth;
4. **Stay home** when you are sick;
5. **Cover your cough or sneeze** with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash;
6. **Don't share** food, beverages, or smoking devices with others;
7. **Practice good health habits** by cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects, and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe; and
8. **Get a flu vaccine** if you have not yet done so. Flu vaccines are being administered at the Sandra Joy Anderson Community Health and Wellness Center, located at 1705 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Texas Department of State Health Services announced that the state now has the ability to test for COVID-19 in six public health labs, including one in Austin. More information can be found here: <https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-dshs-announce-statewide-testing-capabilities-for-coronavirus>

HT, the health and safety of the entire campus community is paramount; thus, remain steadfast in your vigilance to protect yourself and others. HT updates regarding this situation will be readily available online at our Coronavirus Preparedness campus link and via our official university social media channels on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

In Union, Strength,

Colette Pierce Burnette, Ed.D.  
President & CEO  
Huston-Tillotson University

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT