

July 27, 2020

Dear Students,

I hope this email finds you and your families safe and well. There is much planning happening on campus to ensure that we will be providing a safe environment that will continue to be conducive to a positive living and learning experience. By now, you have likely heard that Governor Cuomo has announced that individuals traveling to New York from certain states experiencing high infection rates of COVID-19 are expected to self-quarantine for 14 days. As statistics change, so does the list of states in the travel advisory. If your state is not currently listed, it may be added in the future. Likewise, a state listed today may be removed tomorrow. Please be sure to visit the <u>Governor's Travel Advisory web page</u> often for the latest list. Elmira College is prepared to support and assist students impacted by the travel advisory to establish self-quarantine accommodations.

The College has been working to secure off-campus options to assist you with the quarantine requirement. We have very limited space available on-campus that meets the quarantine requirements set forth in the executive order. Although some residence hall space has been designated for quarantine use during the Term, if needed, it does not provide enough space for students affected by the Governor's travel advisory.

To ensure we have an accurate record of each student's quarantine plan, please <u>fill out this</u> <u>form</u> and **submit on or before Monday, August 3**. Please note that this form is not a reservation; it is simply an easy way to communicate your plans with the College. As a reminder, if you are coming from one of the affected states or from abroad, you will not be allowed on campus without the mandatory 14-day quarantine.

## Things to know:

 The most recent information from the Governor's Office allows for an exception to the mandatory quarantine for students enrolled in healthcare education programs. If you are traveling to a restricted state for your clinical placement, you will not have to quarantine but you must have a negative COVID-19 test within 24 hours of entering New York, along with other requirements. <u>Please see the attached document (page 4, long term)</u>. Please plan ahead as it can take up to 5 days or more to receive test results. If you fall in this category ONE PARK PLACE, ELMIRA, NEW YORK 14901

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you must let us know on the form above and provide proof of a negative test result to Wendy Fiscus, Director of the Clarke Health Center, before arriving on campus.

- 2. Please remember that you must quarantine for a full 14-days prior to arriving on campus. In some cases, this may mean 15 nights of quarantine. For example, if you are scheduled to move in on August 27, you should plan to begin quarantine no later than August 12.
- 3. Students flying to New York will likely be asked to attest to their quarantine plans by completing a document at the airport. This document is also available on the <u>Governor's</u> <u>Travel Advisory web page</u>.
- 4. The 14-day requirement starts once you are no longer in an impacted state, and continues during travel time provided you do not stop in another impacted state for 24 hours or more. For example, if you spend 3 days driving to New York, you can utilize the travel time outside of your state towards the required quarantine.

## **Off-campus Quarantine Options**

Utilizing off-campus housing options is highly encouraged. The on-campus quarantine space is limited, and it is not air-conditioned; it will only be used for students with no other housing options. Elmira College has worked with local hotels to provide a special EC rate for students and families who prefer to complete their quarantine together, off-campus more comfortably. You must contact the hotel directly and be sure to reference the special discount code.

While each hotel offers slightly different amenities, each is prepared to work with you and your family to ensure you meet the quarantine requirements with options such as room service, in-room microwaves and/or refrigerators, and specialized housekeeping options. A link to each hotel's website is included below, but if you have specific questions about a hotel's amenities, please contact them directly.

- <u>Candlewood Suites</u>, Horseheads \$79 per night + taxes
  - Call the hotel directly, 607-873-7676, or email General Manager Andrea Stowe, at <u>astowe@visions-hotels.com</u>, and let them know you are an EC student.
- <u>The Courtyard</u>, Horseheads \$79 per night + taxes
  - Call the hotel directly, 607-795-5900, or email General Manager Tiffany Bowes, at <u>tbowes@visions-hotels.com</u>, and let them know you are an EC student.
- Fairfield Inn & Suites, Horseheads \$79 per night + taxes
  - Call the hotel directly, 607-739-9200, or email General Manager Tom Magnusen, at <u>tmagnusen@visions-hotels.com</u>, and let them know you are an EC student.
- <u>Hilton Garden Inn</u>, Horseheads A stay of 13 days+ is \$65 per night + taxes. Rate includes breakfast (made to order) for up to 2 travelers per room. To account for additional breakfasts, \$75 per night + taxes would be for 3-person occupancy or \$85 per night + taxes for 4-person occupancy.
  - Call the Front Desk at 607-795-1111; <u>must ask</u> for the Elmira College 14+ rate
  - Any student that is traveling on their own and under the age of 21 would require a parent permission sign off; the hotel is happy to work with these families.

- <u>Holiday Inn Elmira</u>, Elmira \$59 per night + taxes
  - Call 607-734-4211 to speak with the Front Desk Team. Let them know you are an EC student.
- Radisson Hotel Corning \$55 per night + taxes
  - Call (607) 962-5000 to speak with the Front Desk Team. Please ask for the "Elmira College Students" Group Block! Online at <u>www.radisson.com/corningny</u> and use Promotional Code ECS20

Students may also choose to self-quarantine somewhere else in New York State. Please be sure to *fill out the form* mentioned above so we can continue to work with you for a safe on-campus arrival. Please note that you may be required to submit evidence of your mandatory 14-day self-quarantine (plane or bus ticket, hotel receipt, toll charge, etc.). Students who cannot or choose not to comply with the quarantine requirements, will be offered the opportunity to enroll in remote learning alternatives.

CARES Act funding from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund is still available to support emergency aid for students. Eligible expenses include <u>food, housing</u>, course materials, technology, health care, child care, and other similar expenses that are specifically due to the disruption of campus operations for the coronavirus pandemic. A student's housing/lodging and food expenses that are a result of the 14-day quarantine are eligible for reimbursement. To be considered for funding, please review the criteria in the application on MyEC and return the completed application to <u>caresactaid@elmira.edu</u>

It is preferred that all students make every effort to self-quarantine for 14 days prior to returning to campus to minimize exposure, especially residential students. You will receive additional move-in information in the coming weeks from Residence Life – we are pleased to welcome Karl Koeppel '07 as our new Assistant Dean of Students. Karl's first day was Monday, July 27, but as an experienced residence life professional and an engaged EC alumnus, he has hit the ground running, and we are extremely happy to have him on our team.

I know this is an anxious time, and I appreciate your patience as we plan for your safe return to campus. We are working as quickly as possible on details for Term I, while simultaneously ensuring our policies and protocols are updated to meet the latest state and local health guidelines, in order to ensure a safe campus environment for all. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reply to this email or reach out to our Nurse Practitioner and Director of Health Services, Wendy Fiscus, at <u>wfiscus@elmira.edu</u> or (607) 735-1750. More information will be shared with students in the next few days about COVID-19 testing and returning to campus.

Sincerely, Dr. Liz Lambert Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Life