

Good Morning,

We hope your Spring term is going well and that you have been able to accomplish much during the first half of the term. As you are aware, the media coverage of the Coronavirus or COVID-19 is very extensive. The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) provided a News Release Sunday night and we are sharing information from that release with you. The information below in italics was taken directly from the News Release providing the most current information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and DPH.

*The risk of COVID-19 to the general public remains low. The best prevention measures for any respiratory virus are:*

- *Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.*
- *Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.*
- *Avoid close contact with people who are sick.*
- *Stay home when you are sick.*
- *Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.*
- *Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.*

*If you have recently traveled to areas where there are ongoing outbreaks of COVID-19 and develop fever with cough and shortness of breath within 14 days of your travel, or if you have had contact with someone who is suspected to have COVID-19, stay home and call your health care provider or local health department right away. **Be sure to call before going to a doctor's office, emergency room, or urgent care center and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms.***

*For accurate and reliable information about COVID-19 log on to <https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus> or <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. Previous news releases about COVID-19 in Georgia can be found on the DPH website at <https://dph.georgia.gov/>.*

While you watch and read about this virus, we want you to know that North Georgia Technical College remains vigilant to take the necessary steps for the welfare of our college and community. Across the college, flyers have been posted in relevant

locations across each campus that encourage best practices during this time of flu and virus. In the days ahead, you may notice some additional changes as we monitor and respond to the recommendations from DPH and the CDC for wellness practices.

We will share additional information as needed.