Dear CSUSM Students,

Spring break, which is March 30-April 4 for Cal State San Marcos, is traditionally a time when many students enjoy travel. However, we know this will not feel like a normal break, given the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. During this challenging time, we hope that you can enjoy a break from academics while making your health and safety a priority.

As you make plans for next week, it is very important that all students:

- Follow Gov. Gavin Newsom’s recent order that all individuals living in the State of California must stay home except for urgent or essential needs.
- Postpone or cancel gatherings across the state; get-togethers of more than 10 people are not allowed.
- Do not host or attend parties.
- Stay away from the beaches, trails and parks – many California cities, including San Marcos, have closed these areas to the public.
- Instead of social distancing, practice “distant socializing” by using technology to stay connected to friends and loved ones.

The governor’s mandatory order went into effect March 19 and is in place until further notice. Please note, it’s OK to go out to shop for food, care for a relative or friend, get necessary health care or go to an essential job. As you know, this is a vital intervention to reduce the spread of COVID-19, and it’s critical that we do our part.

Travel restrictions
Additionally, on March 19, the U.S. State Department issued a “Level 4: Do Not Travel” advisory, warning U.S. citizens to avoid all international travel due to the global impact of COVID-19. We also urge extreme caution for personal domestic travel. Counties and states across the U.S. have also imposed orders restricting travel and public gatherings.

At this time, with guidance from the California State University system, CSUSM strongly recommends that you reconsider any plans that may involve air travel. While the CDC does not generally issue advisories or restrictions for travel within the U.S., cases of COVID-19 have been reported across the country, and some areas are experiencing community spread of the disease. Crowded settings, like airports, may increase your risk of exposure.

You may check the latest CDC Traveler’s Health Notices and the WHO Information for Travel Page for the latest guidance and recommendations. In addition, we’ve curated these additional online resources to assist you:

- CDC Travel Advisories
- Dept of State Travel Advisories
- Dept of State Travel Advisory Map
- Travelers from Countries with Widespread Transmission Arriving in U.S.
- White House Guidelines to Help Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 in the United States
- CSUSM COVID-19 Resources and FAQ for students
- CSUSM’s Guide to How to Access Virtual Student Support Services

Have a question or need support?
We are grateful to be part of such a resilient and caring campus community. For general questions related to the university’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, please email covid@csusm.edu. For students in need of support or some sort of assistance, please email the Cougar Care Network at ccn@csusm.edu.

Sincerely,
Jason Schreiber
Dean of Students