

Frequently Asked Questions

Coronavirus/COVID-19

August 6, 2020

- 1. What is the Coronavirus?** Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. In COVID-19, 'CO' stands for 'corona,' 'VI' for 'virus,' and 'D' for disease. It is caused by a new, or novel, coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, China.
- 2. What are the Signs and Symptoms of COVID-19?** People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported—ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus, possibly longer. People with the following signs or symptoms may have COVID-19: fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, rashes, and toe lesions
- 3. How does it spread?** It is thought to spread mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Spread is more likely when people are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet). It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching his or her mouth, nose, or possibly eyes. However, this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.
- 4. What do I do if I have signs or symptoms of COVID 19?** STAY HOME! Either in the residence hall, off-campus apartment, or private home.
 - Students: contact the Student Health Center at studenthealth@kings.edu or call 579-208-5852, Monday through Friday, after performing your Daily Screen. For resident students if it is after hours, notify your RA/RC for guidance in addition to leaving a message at Student Health. For an emergency, resident students contact the campus security through the switchboard at 570-208-5900 or call 911. For off-campus or commuter students, call 911.
 - Faculty and staff: notify your supervisor and Human Resources at hr@kings.edu .
- 5. Who is at risk for COVID 19?** The virus can infect people of all ages. Evidence to date suggests that two groups of people are at a higher risk of getting severe COVID-19 disease: older individuals and those with underlying medical conditions (such as obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, cancer). The World Health Organization (WHO) has issued advice for these two groups and for community support to ensure that they are protected from COVID-19 without being isolated, stigmatized, left in a position of increased vulnerability or unable to access basic provisions and social care. The current national trend displays an increase in positive cases between the ages of 15-24.
- 6. How can I protect myself and others?** There is currently no vaccine available for COVID-19. The CDC recommends the following behaviors to help prevent the spread of the virus:
 - clean your hands often, ideally by washing with soap and water for 20 seconds;
 - use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol when hand-washing is not possible;
 - avoid touching your mouth, eyes, and nose;

- avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- maintain physical distancing of at least 6 feet between yourself and others;
- wear a cloth face cover or mask when in public and when around other people;
- cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash;
- clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces;
- stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.