

Q: Have there been any confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) at the ENMU-Roswell Campus?

A: No, There are no confirmed cases of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) at the ENMU-Roswell campus. There have been no confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the state of New Mexico as of Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 11:15 a.m. For more information, please visit the [NMDOH website](#).

Q: What is the Coronavirus (COVID-19)?

A: Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), is a new respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. A novel coronavirus (CoV) is a new coronavirus that has not been previously identified.

Q: What is ENMU-Roswell doing to prepare for the Coronavirus?

A: Eastern New Mexico University –Roswell has taken the following steps to respond to the Coronavirus:

- We utilize a mass notification systems to update students, faculty and staff of any changes to operations. To sign up for mass notification about campus events, go to [Everbridge Emergency Notification System](#).
- Information about campus events are posted on the website and the [ENMU-Roswell Facebook page](#).
- Guidelines for preparing for the Coronavirus will be posted on campus and discussed in a campus meeting on March 5, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. in the ITC Commons area.
- We are hosting a New Mexico Department of Health presentation on the Coronavirus on March 6, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the Performing Arts Center. The campus community and public are invited to attend this presentation.
- Our campus also has the ability to administer courses online in the event of any closure.
- Hand sanitizing dispensers are available near campus bathrooms.

Q: What is New Mexico doing to prepare for the Coronavirus?

A: The New Mexico Department of Public Health has created a web page to keep citizens of New Mexico informed. For more information, please visit the [NMDOH website](#).

Q. How is the Coronavirus similar to the flu, and how are they different?

Coronavirus vs. Flu

Influenza (Flu) and Covid-19, the illness caused by the new coronavirus, are both infectious respiratory illnesses. Although the symptoms of COVID-19 and the flu can appear similar, the two illnesses are caused by different viruses.

You can find information on COVID-19 at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [cdc.gov](#).

Similarities: COVID-19 and the Flu

Symptoms

- Both cause fever, cough, body aches, fatigue; sometimes vomiting and diarrhea.
- Can be mild or severe, even fatal in rare cases.
- Can result in pneumonia.

Transmission

- Both can be spread from person to person through droplets in the air from an infected person coughing, sneezing or talking.
- A possible difference: COVID-19 might spread through the airborne route ([See Details Under Differences](#)).
- Flu can be spread by an infected person for several days before their symptoms appear, and COVID-19 is believed to be spread in the same manner, but we don't yet know for sure.

Treatment

- Neither virus is treatable with antibiotics, which only work on bacterial infections.
- Both may be treated by addressing symptoms, such as reducing fever. Severe cases may require hospitalization and support such as mechanical ventilation.

Prevention

In short, both may be prevented by frequent, thorough hand washing, coughing into the crook of your elbow, staying home when sick and limiting contact with people who are infected. For more information on Coronavirus prevention, please visit [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

Differences: COVID-19 and the Flu

Cause

COVID-19: Caused by one virus, the novel 2019 coronavirus, now called severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, or SARS-CoV-2.

Flu: Caused by any of several different types of strains of influenza viruses.

Transmission

While both the flu and COVID-19 may be transmitted in similar ways (See Similarities Above), there is also a possible difference: COVID-19 might be spread through the airborne route, meaning that tiny droplets remaining in the air could cause disease in others even after the ill person is no longer near.

Antiviral Medications

COVID-19: Antiviral medications are currently being tested to see if that can address symptoms.

Flu: Antiviral medications can address symptoms and sometimes shorten the duration of the illness.

Vaccine

COVID-19: No vaccine is available at this time, though it is in progress.

- Neither virus is treatable with antibiotics, which only work on bacterial infections.
- Both may be treated by addressing symptoms, such as reducing fever. Severe cases may require hospitalization and support such as mechanical ventilation.

Q: I'm sick. How do I know if it is COVID-19?

A: Anyone with flu-like symptoms should call Student Health Services (La Casa) 575-624-7106, or their healthcare provider for advice and assistance regarding their symptoms prior to travelling to a treatment facility. In the event of an emergency where 911 may be used involving an individual with flu-like symptoms, the caller should advise dispatch of the symptoms so this information can be relayed to Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and other first responders in preparation for a potential exposure.

Symptoms may include fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. If you have these symptoms, or have been in contact with someone with these symptoms, it is important to seek advice from a health care provider.

Q: How do medical providers test for the Coronavirus (COVID-19)?

A: The New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH's State Scientific Laboratory (SLD) now has capacity to test for COVID-19, the novel coronavirus. The tests kits, provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), allow the Department of Health to test several hundred patients without having to send samples out of state for testing.

Resources and References:

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

[New Mexico Department of Public Health \(NMDOH\)](#)

[John Hopkins Medicine](#)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)