



Appalachian College of Pharmacy – Announcement Regarding COVID-19

The Appalachian College of Pharmacy (ACP) will suspend its campus-based courses beginning March 16, 2020 until further notice to prepare for the possibility of temporarily moving to an online curriculum delivery in light of concerns surrounding Coronavirus (COVID-19). College officials said the action was being taken out of an abundance of caution.

ACP students, faculty and staff were notified of the decision by ACP Dean Susan Mayhew Wednesday night, midway through the college's spring break. Mayhew indicated the announcement was being made in consultation with ACP President Mickey McGlothlin and with Dr. Lu Ellsworth, chairman of the ACP Board of Trustees.

"The Appalachian College of Pharmacy is committed to ensuring that students fulfill the academic requirements of its PharmD program in a timely manner and we are committed to protecting the health and safety of our students, faculty, staff and the community," Mayhew said.

To prepare for the transition to an online curriculum, the college will provide a distance learning workshop for faculty on campus, require first and second year students to participate in a mandatory practice examination using online proctoring and require students to participate in a mandatory remote lecture to review online instruction and testing.

"If the online examination and delivery of course content trial is successful, on March 23, the college will begin regular online classes for its first and second year students," Mayhew said of the pending changes. adding the

The online classes will be held pending further notice.

At this time, Mayhew said, third year students will continue at their rotation sites. College offices, including the Mountain Care Center, will remain open. Faculty and staff will report to work as usual.

"These actions are being done in an effort to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus," Mayhew said of the move to online curriculum delivery.

The college recommends the college community and the community at large continue to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's steps to prevent illness which may be found at www.cdc.gov.

Among those are to avoid exposure to the virus through good hygiene practices, including:

- hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (say the alphabet or sing "Happy Birthday" to yourself to make sure you wash long enough);
- in the event soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol;
- cover your coughs and sneezes with tissue, a handkerchief, or elbow;
- avoid shaking hands during cold and flu season; and
- if you or your children are sick -- stay home.