Physical Distancing for PSU Health

Pursuant of Executive Order No.20-12, Portland State University will follow all requirements and guidelines from the State and Oregon Health Authority regarding physical distancing for the health of all Portland State students, staff, faculty and visitors. These practices shall be followed by all persons on Portland State property until such time as the Executive Order is lifted. This policy is intended to reduce person-to-person interactions to slow transmission of COVID-19 Coronavirus.

The term “physical distancing” is used in this policy document based on the World Health Organization’s recommendation instead of “social distancing” to highlight the minimum 6-foot physical distance individuals should keep from one another. PSU encourages people to remain socially connected while self-isolating during this pandemic.

Physical Distancing:

● Maintain a distance of six (6) feet between individuals; and reconfigure spaces as needed to allow for distance.
● Gatherings of 25 people or more are prohibited by PSU and the State of Oregon, and all individuals in the U.S. are advised to avoid gatherings of 10 people or more.
● Avoiding gatherings and close contact is especially important for those at high risk of developing severe illness from COVID-19, such as older adults and people with serious underlying medical conditions.

Personal Health and Hygiene:

● Any person exhibiting symptoms, or living with a person exhibiting symptoms including fever, dry coughing, and shortness of breath, should avoid the University, and not travel to campus.
● Persons shall maintain good hand washing and hygiene and take necessary steps to clean as they enter, and depart from the campus,
● Use proper respiratory etiquette: Covering coughs and sneezes into the elbow, or tissue, and disposal of tissue.
● Politely ask individuals to leave if they are sick and are coughing.
● Engage in touchless greetings instead of in-person handshakes.

Access to Buildings and Office Spaces:

● Access to campus shall be limited to card access doors.
● Only individuals performing a critical function for which work from home is not feasible are to be on campus.
● Do not allow any person into a building that is not a PSU employee, faculty, staff, or student that has specific business in that building.
• Coordinate with those in a shared office space ahead of your arrival so that you avoid overlap during your visit. If working in an open office area, it is recommended to limit the number of persons to one quarter the normal occupancy.
  • If this is not feasible because of the space or type of work performed, maintain a minimum of 6 feet between individuals.
• If working on campus, where possible, keep office doors closed.
• For faculty needing support from OAI or OIT in facilitating remote learning, please coordinate with them in advance of your arrival on campus to avoid having multiple people in the same space.

PSU Physical Distance Officer
Jeff Rook
Director, Environmental Health & Safety
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