



Dear Ashford University Faculty,

Ensuring the health and safety of members of the Ashford University community is our priority. News of the spread of the Coronavirus outbreak has captured the national attention and is, I know, of concern to us all. In follow-up to [my last email](#), I want to provide you with a few updates relative to our community.

With the health and safety of our community remaining paramount, students registered to attend the Spring commencement this May will receive the attached announcement today informing them that the event will be postponed. We realize that this change will leave many disappointed and we appreciate your time in allowing students to share their concerns. Recognizing the importance of celebrating the achievements of our graduates, please remind your students who were scheduled to attend in May that they have been invited to participate in the Fall 2020 ceremony.

Additionally, as is always the case during times of increased need, Ashford will remain responsive to the range of needs that exist. We ask that you continue to support students by exercising flexibility with assignment due dates and providing additional extensions as needed when working with students who may have been unable to submit assignments on-time as a result of personal or family illness. Students received communication today encouraging them to reach out to Instructors directly to discuss their needs. If you have concerns for the wellbeing of one of your students, please make a referral to the Student Advocate Helpline at HELP@Ashford.edu.

If you are experiencing issues at any time or may not be able to access your course for an extended period, please reach out to your CETL contact or CETL@ashford.edu.

We are continuing to closely monitor official reports from relevant federal government agencies and our state and local public health systems, including the following sources:

- <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

We will continue to keep you informed of any additional updates and thank you for your ongoing care and support!

Sincerely,

Craig
CRAIG D. SWENSON, PH.D. / PRESIDENT
Ashford University

