

March 2, 2020

To: Hawai'i Tokai International College Parents

Aloha from Hawai'i Tokai International College,

We are contacting you due to the current events related to the Coronavirus (also named COVID-19).

As the rate of COVID-19 grows and spreads to different parts of the world, we at HTIC are taking strong measures to ensure that students, faculty, and staff remain healthy and out of harm's way. The virus originated in China and has rapidly spread to the U.S., Japan, South Korea, Iran, Italy, and virtually every continent.

While there are no identified cases of COVID-19 in Hawai'i, we are actively involved in preventing and protecting ourselves should it happen to come here. It is important to note that the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) has said that the risk of COVID-19 to the general public remains low.

HTIC is working closely with the State of Hawai'i agencies to monitor and develop our own preparation strategies. We have been communicating regularly with the University of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Pacific University, and the State Department of Health to stay informed and receive guidance as to how to best respond to this threat.

Student's health and safety are high priorities for HTIC. To ensure that your son's or daughter's personal wellbeing is protected, we are encouraging all of our students to take every precaution to ensure that their health is closely monitored. As a campus community we will do everything we can to monitor the situation as well.

Although we do not anticipate that harsher travel restrictions will be put in place for people traveling to and from Japan, should your son or daughter decide to return home to Japan after the Winter 2020 Term ends, be aware that the United States government and the State of Hawai'i have the authority to impose travel restrictions in the future that may prevent your son or daughter from returning to HTIC for the Spring Term. If your son or daughter wants to remain in Hawai'i during the Spring Break, we will have the dormitory open so that they will have a place to stay. Additionally, they will be able to continue to eat at the University of Hawai'i West Oahu cafeteria.

Please feel free to contact my office should you have any questions.

Aloha,

Gene Awakuni Chancellor