Dear University Community,

Over the last few days, we’ve seen a notable increase in positive COVID-19 cases in our campus community, with the majority of these cases among our students who live off campus. While we anticipated positive cases and planned for this situation, it is disappointing that we are at this point less than two weeks into the semester. The great majority of you are following the protocols we outlined in the Texas Tech Commitment, but those who are not are placing our entire campus community at risk.

We know, through our contact tracing efforts, that most of our positive cases are the result of parties and other social gatherings that are taking place off campus. Although our current number of active cases are about 1% of our university population, if this rise in positive cases continues, we are prepared to make significant adjustments to our plans. This move would go against everything we have worked so hard to provide in terms of an on-campus collegiate experience.

As student leaders Hunter Heck, Trey Bolton and Priscilla Colmenero stated in their campus letter on Wednesday afternoon, the only way for us to successfully navigate this pandemic is to work together and do the things necessary to protect ourselves and others. I also join them in encouraging our students, faculty, and staff to refrain from any kind of travel out of town over the Labor Day weekend.

Beginning tomorrow, we will provide additional free on-campus COVID-19 testing at a walk-up clinic provided by the Texas Department of Emergency Management. This walk-up clinic will be hosted at Urbanovsky Park, located near the Student Recreation Center.

Now more than ever, it’s critical that we follow all health and safety protocols to protect ourselves and our greater Lubbock community.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Schovanec
President
Texas Tech University

FROM HERE, IT'S POSSIBLE