



03/09/2020

Dear Tulane Health System colleagues,

First, I want to thank everyone for their patience and cooperation today as we worked through the kinks of implementing precautions against COVID-19. I know there are inconveniences around access and parking, and I appreciate your efforts to help keep our patients, visitors and coworkers safe.

This is especially true now, as the Louisiana Department of Health has announced the first presumptive case of COVID-19 here in Orleans Parish. While Tulane Health System still has no confirmed cases, I am grateful we have our screening processes already in place.

Our plans continue to evolve as the situation takes shape, and we remain in contact with the health department and CDC on any developments on the virus itself. Here are a few updates and reminders as we move forward:

Parking

We know there were some parking restraints this morning, and we are implementing some immediate changes to best accommodate patients and staff.

Employees who work on the first floor, mezzanine and second floor of Tulane Medical Center (dietary, central sterile, radiology, lab, admitting, plant ops, environmental services, etc.), please park in the LaSalle Garage as of tomorrow, Tuesday, March 10. Employees should continue to park on the fifth floor and above in LaSalle.

All other employees, please use the Saratoga Garage and park on floors four and above. The second and third floors of Saratoga are designated for Tulane Cancer Center patient parking. Tulane University Police Department staff will be monitoring the Saratoga parking garage tomorrow to ensure patients and employees are parking in the correct areas.

Access

All day-shift Tulane Medical Center staff must enter the facility through the LaSalle or Saratoga hospital entrances – the ER is only for patients, and the valet area is only for patients with special mobility needs. Staff who visit the food trucks on Tulane Avenue for lunch, for example, must use the LaSalle entrance to enter and exit the facility.

My thanks again for everyone's help. I know this is a heavy lift, but I also know it's the right thing to do – protecting our patients and team always is.

Sincerely,
Dr. Bob Lynch
CEO
Tulane Health System