November 6, 2020

TO: All Faculty and Staff
FROM: Scott Freund, Executive Vice President
RE: Thanksgiving Break COVID-19 Protocols

The fall term is quickly passing and within several weeks it will be Thanksgiving. As you begin to think about your plans for Thanksgiving, it is important for you to know the following information if you will be physically returning to any of NEIT's campuses after the Thanksgiving break.

Please understand that the following was written based on guidance from the RI Department of Health (RIDOH), as it stands today. Things can change quickly during this pandemic and the guidance from RIDOH can change as well. Therefore, as warranted, an update to this memo may be distributed once we get closer to Thanksgiving break.

A "Hot Spot" State is defined by the RI Department of Health as a state with a COVID-19 test positivity rate in excess of 5% (see list at: https://health.ri.gov/covid/travel/ - scroll to "Rhode Islanders Returning From Travel"). Whether you live in RI or another state, if you travel to a Hot Spot State for more than same-day travel, you must notify NEIT's Contact Tracing Team (CTT), NEITTracing@neit.edu, when you return home and prior to returning to campus for guidance pertaining to the steps you will need to take before coming on campus. It is important to notify your supervisor in advance of traveling to a Hot Spot State in the event you will need to quarantine upon your return (see below), to determine if your potential 14-day absence from campus will have a negative impact on your department or classes.

The status of a state as a Hot Spot State can change quickly. It will be important to check to see if the state to which you travel is on the Hot Spot State list (link above) on the date you plan to return to campus. If it is, you will need to comply with the information provided below as well as follow the guidance provided by a CTT staff member.

When you return home, you will not be allowed on campus until you have provided NEIT's CTT (NEITTracing@neit.edu), with evidence of a negative COVID-19 test result (a PCR test - a lab test, not a rapid test) taken within 72 hours of the date you return to campus. Once your test result is submitted to the CTT, a CTT staff member will then confirm the date you can return to campus.

If you do not provide a negative test result, you will be required to quarantine for 14 days at your residence before you can return to campus. If you have any questions about COVID-19 tests or quarantine, contact the Contact Tracing Team at NEITTracing@neit.edu or 401-780-4102.

You are reminded that although this memo references the Thanksgiving break, travel to a Hot Spot State occurring at any time will require faculty and staff to follow the same steps indicated above.

We thank you for all that you have done so far to keep the NEIT community safe and ask that you continue to do your part in minimizing the risk of COVID-19 transmission during this pandemic.