

May 13, 2020

## **TSTC Communications**

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## TSTC's response to COVID-19 case

(HARLINGEN, Texas)-- TSTC has received notification that one of its students tested positive for COVID-19 yesterday, which was confirmed by the local health department today.

The phlebotomy student was last on campus on Thursday, May 7th. The student had been feeling ill on Thursday and went to the doctor where a COVID test was performed. The student and the rest of the class have not returned to the campus since then.

The risk of exposure was reduced significantly by the safety protocols used in the classroom including personal protective equipment (PPE), social distancing and other safety protocols to minimize the spread of COVID-19. The student was in a class of six in a building where no other classes were taking place. The lab and all public areas in the building were disinfected immediately after class.

TSTC is working with the local health department and continuing protocols outlined by the <u>US</u> Center for Disease Control.

As of Monday, TSTC has postponed the class and repeated a deep clean of the lab. The college initiated the process of contact-tracing to alert other students and staff who may have come in contact with the student.

Students in the class will return to campus on May 26.