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**TO:** State and System Colleagues  
**FROM:** Diana Bonner, Executive Assistant to the Senior Vice President for Accreditation Relations and Manager of Institutional Support Services  
**RE:** MSCHÉ and Coronavirus (COVID-19)  
**DATE:** March 9, 2020

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The coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to be a global concern, and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) has received a number of inquiries about its operations. This communication is to provide an update from MSCHÉ for your agency and to request that you provide information about the response of your state or system to the coronavirus (COVID-19) as it impacts institutions of higher education that MSCHÉ accredits.

MSCHÉ has posted information at its website regarding decisions it has made about travel relating to international visits as well as the USDE Guidance that was issued last week. If any MSCHÉ institutions within your system or state had scheduled on-site evaluation visits this Spring, those visits will continue as planned. MSCHÉ has asked that teams report to MSCHÉ an unwillingness or inability to travel that may be related to the coronavirus, and the staff will work individually with each team to determine the most appropriate next steps.

If you have instituted any travel restrictions, travel advisories, or provided other guidance related to the coronavirus and the colleges or universities within your state or system, or if you have waived any state or system requirements to align with the recently released United States Department of Education *[Guidance for interruptions of study related to coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)*, please provide this information to MSCHÉ by sending it via email to my attention at [dbonner@msche.org](mailto:dbonner@msche.org). This will position MSCHÉ to work with our institutions, and with your agency, to most appropriately determine how best to proceed based on any state or system decisions that have been made.

As the Commission continues to monitor the impact of the coronavirus, updates will be provided at our website under *[Travel Warnings and Advisories](#)* as well as communicated directly with constituencies as the circumstances may warrant. Please do not hesitate to outreach to me if I can answer any questions about planned accreditation activities within your state or system. Thank you for your cooperation and timely response.

**Download a PDF of this memo at <https://go.msche.org/20200309-Memo-to-States-and-Systems-Coronavirus>**