Buried
OU has
day off

Today's cancellation is just the second for the Ohio University campus since 1985.

By Alan D. Miller
Dispatch Higher Education Reporter

Deep snow shut down Ohio University yesterday and prompted officials to cancel classes for today — the second time this month after going nine years without a weather-related closure.

Thousands of college students on campuses across central and southern Ohio enjoyed a day off yesterday to play in snow that ranged from 8 to 24 inches. Classes at most colleges and universities were canceled before the snowfall for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

The storm was expected to dump up to 2 feet of snow on OU's Athens campus, to the delight of students and the concern of grounds crews.

"We're really just taking it hour by hour," said Judy Radford of the OU Physical Plant. "We're concerned about the extreme cold that is supposed to be coming next."

OU classes were canceled Jan. 4 for the first time since 1985 when up to 21 inches of snow blanketed southeastern Ohio. That snow, and the latest, closed some OU regional campuses, too. The Lancaster campus was closed yesterday.

Daytime classes at OU were canceled for the holiday yesterday, but night classes were supposed to meet. They were canceled at about 2 p.m.

"People are out on the College Green having snowball fights and making snow angels. It's silly out there," said Brad Swanson, an OU junior from Upper Arlington.

"Never in my life have I seen so much snow," said Mike Fitzsimmons, Ohio State University landscape superintendent, may have been happier than most students about OSU being closed for a holiday yesterday.

"It would be impossible to clear the streets, sidewalks and parking lots if we had classes today," he said.

"About 200 workers drove plows and pushed shovels yesterday to uncover a mini city including 31 miles of sidewalks and even more streets."

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Janine Pitts, left, a 20-year-old junior at Ohio State University, and Andy Keeler, 22, an OSU senior, a prenursing major from Newark, Ohio, and Keeler, a financial management major from Granville, Ohio, couldn't resist the urge to play yesterday.

"We never close," said spokesman Stewart B. Dyke. "We have a residential campus, and more than 97 percent of our students live on campus. It's a challenge with all the hills we have, but the staff does a good job of keeping streets and sidewalks cleared."

"I've got a full day of programming scheduled and people coming in all over, it just isn't advisable to go out in this kind of weather," said Capital spokesman Laura Ecklar. "The snow has fouled things up everywhere."

Denison University in Granville was an exception, even with the heavy snow.

"We never close," said spokesman Stewart B. Dyke. "We have a residential campus, and more than 97 percent of our students live on campus. It's a challenge with all the hills we have, but the staff does a good job of keeping streets and sidewalks cleared."

"The snow and cold weather prompted Denison officials to move Martin Luther King Day observances indoors. Ceremonies originally were scheduled to take place outdoors."

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City shivers under brutal cold

By John Shutz
Dispatch Weather Columnist

Folks in Anchorage, Alaska, were expecting to wake up to temperatures in the mid-teens this morning. Consider them lucky.

This morning, you may be waking up to a temperature that is close to Columbus' all-time low of 20 degrees below zero.

After midnight, the temperature dropped to 18 degrees below zero at Port Columbus.

The arctic-like weather in the Columbus area this week has closed schools, caused scattered outages and water-line breaks, sent motorists scurrying to have batteries recharged and put things such as street snow plowing and garbage collection on the deep freeze.

Columbus police and firefighters were kept busy last night responding to numerous accidents on the freeways when frigid temperatures caused bridges and overpasses to freeze. No serious injuries were reported.

Columbus Public Schools officials announced last night that schools will be closed today because of the brutal cold. Most other area public schools also canceled classes as did local Roman Catholic schools.

In a rare move, Ohio State University also canceled classes.

Accu-Weather forecaster Ken Reeves, who had been predicting a low of minus 17, revised his forecast last night. Will Columbus tie the all-time low, he was asked.

"I wouldn't go out on a limb and say that," Reeves said. "I could easily break it."

The current record for the date is minus 15, set on Jan. 19, 1940. The 20-degree figure was reached on three occasions in the late 1800s.

The high today will be 3 degrees. The overnight low tonight will be 1 below 0, and there could be a dusting of snow on the ground.

Temperatures will moderate the rest of the week until they climb above freezing by the weekend.

Yesterday's lowest reading of 0 below zero set during the brutal winter of 1977. The high temperature yesterday was zero after a mid-night low of minus 10. That was the lowest high temperature ever on Jan. 18.

The record was 3 degrees above 0, set Jan. 18, 1977.

The last two times temperatures dropped into the double digits below zero in Columbus were minus 10 on Feb. 3, 1985, and minus 19 and minus 16 on Jan. 20 and 21, respectively, 1983.

Columbus also may have had a weather-related death yesterday.

Family members found Robert Carrier, 63, slumped over the wheel of his car in front of his house at 176 Clinton St. at 1:30 p.m. yesterday and believe he had a heart attack.

Carrier was taken to Ohio State University Medical Center where he was pronounced dead.

The North Side man could not get his car started and had walked six blocks to a store to get a car or engine spray before he died, Fire Capt. John Griffith said.

An autopsy was performed today.

Garbage pickup was canceled in Gahanna, Grandview Heights and Upper Arlington today but was rescheduled elsewhere, including Columbus.

This marked the second day in a row Johnson Disposal postponed Gahanna's trash pickup.

"I've been in this business 17 years, and I've never had to cancel collection until this month," said Jim Oglesbee, general manager for Johnson Disposal.

About 30 percent of the Columbus Refuse Collection Division's fleet was forced to return to garages yesterday because of cold-related mechanical failures, said Administrator Gerald Edwards.

"If anything could go wrong this morning, it did," Edwards said. "The hydraulic systems used to compact trash were freezing. Heaters and defrosters in some truck cabins were working interminably."

Edwards said about 25,000 homes will have to wait until Saturday for pickup. Some collections were canceled at 11 a.m. yesterday and won't resume until Thursday.

The delay is necessary because of the danger of extreme cold to employees, Edwards said.

Regular collection will resume Thursday and Friday, and crews will work Saturday to catch up.

"We're asking people to go ahead and leave their trash on the curb, but don't try to second-guess when we'll get to them. That way it will be there," he said.

The AAA Ohio Auto Club suspended home service at 3 p.m. yesterday in central Ohio because it was swamped with calls. The auto club was to begin taking calls from people at home by 6 this morning.

Electricity was out in the Berkley area of Columbus between 5:45 and 7:57 a.m. yesterday. Power was knocked out to a large section of Gahanna last night, officials said.

Columbus Southern Power reported a new winter peak demand record yesterday, the second time the record had been broken in three days. Customers used 2,780,988 kilowatts in the one-hour period that ended at noon, eclipsing the record set between 6 and 7 p.m. Tuesday.

The Fairfield County Utilities Department ordered 2,600 customers to water off after the failure of a chlorinator unit, which heats liquid chlorine, turning it into gas so it can be injected into the water to kill any bacteria or organisms.

The customers affected, including 100 businesses, are in Violet Township and the Mingo and Melrose residential subdivisions in Pickerington, said Bill Vose, county sanitary engineer. Water should be boiled 15 to 30 minutes.

Dispatch reporters Bruce Cadwallader, Doug Melonis and Steve Wight contributed to this story.
6 degrees of refrigeration

With the thermometer reading minus six degrees, and OSU classes cancelled, Christian Hurdulian was one of the few who braved a trip to campus.
Chilling cold causes campus to cancel class

By Hal Patterson
Lantern staff writer

Lonely sparrows and robins huddled like vagrants, jostling for the warmest seat over sewer grates and heat vents Wednesday at Ohio State.

Our feathered friends might have had more company if classes hadn't been cancelled for only the third time in 18 years.

An empty campus shivered through an all-time record low temperature for Columbus.

National Weather Service meteorologist Dave Ondrejik said Columbus reached its record low of -22 at 5:45 a.m.

The decision to cancel classes was reached after information from OSU Physical Facilities and projected weather forecasts were compiled, said John Kleberg, assistant vice president of Business and Administration.

“We felt that the main concern was the risk of exposure to students travelling from parking lots to classes; however, we were very confident in our ability to provide service to the majority of campus buildings,” said A.L. Matthews, assistant vice president-management of Physical Facilities.

Unbelievably, only 7 cases of frostbite were reported at the Wilcox Student Health Center and OSU Hospitals emergency rooms, said Dr. Ted Grace, director of the Student Health Center.

One student who was treated was warned to remove his earrings before going out to class, because the tiny pieces of jewelry act as a conductor for cold into an area that is already extremely vulnerable to frostbite.

The health center managed to stay open despite losing its heat. Once heat was restored, two water pipes that supplied the heat burst, causing significant damage, Grace said.

Despite the cancelled classes, emergency services across campus were overwhelmed.

“I imagine we've done over a hundred tows and jump-starts today,” said Caleb Brunson, director of Traffic and Parking.

“McCracken Power Plant is the source of heat for most of the buildings on campus and has been performing quite well,” said Matthews.

However, there were reports that older buildings on campus like Hagerty Hall were considerably colder than they should have been.

Matthews said roughly 20 of the approximately 115 buildings on campus to which McCracken provides heat had serious water damage problems.

Kleberg indicated the reason for cancelling classes on Wednesday and not Tuesday was a combination of concerns about projected low temperatures and accessibility to the campus itself.

At the beginning of the quarter, administration officials indicated that cancelling classes because of inclement weather was unlikely at best; however, Mother Nature is never wrong and always bats last.

Temperatures are expected to be in the middle teens today and may rise into the low 40s by Sunday, a 60-degree swing, said Ondrejik.

Break out the tanning oil—it looks like a heat wave.
Ohio State, Ohio U. students just chill out

By Alan D. Miller
Dispatch Higher Education Reporter

Ohio State University went into hibernation yesterday for its first weather-related cancellation of classes in 16 years.

And in Athens, Ohio University shut down for the rest of this week because of deep snow and extreme cold. It is the longest weather-related closure at OU in at least 30 years.

At an institution almost 200 years old, we are bound to find a few other times it was closed for several days, but I don’t know of any other time it was closed this long,” said Bryan McNulty, OU spokesman.

Despite canceling classes, both OU and OSU went on with plans for men’s basketball games on their home courts last night.

Ohio State is expected to hold classes today, President Gordon Gee said yesterday afternoon.

“These are not easy decisions,” he said. “Out of concern for students, we decided we should not have classes” yesterday.

Seven students suffered frostbite Tuesday while walking to classes, and that was a factor.

“Most of that was due to the fact that students need to learn to put on hats and coats,” Gee said.

Mary Ann Joseph, director of nursing at the student health center, said today’s students were just babies the last time Ohio was hit by anything close to this arctic blast.

Joseph said she feels like a mother to 50,000 students at times.

“I had one student in here today, and I asked him, ‘Where’s your hat?’ He didn’t have one. So I said, ‘What’s in that big collar on your coat? Is that a hood?’ It was, so I told him, ‘Look, your Mom called, and she wants you to wear that hood.’”

Only a few students on the campus of 50,000 ventured out yesterday. Several hundred went to Larkins Hall for basketball, weight-lifting and swimming.

“I came by to play basketball,” said Jeff Donovan, a junior accounting major from Brunswick, Ohio. “There really aren’t many people here. I think a lot of them don’t know it’s open.”

The Oval and virtually all of the OSU campus were deserted for most of the day.

One thing students weren’t doing yesterday was reading The Lantern, the student newspaper.

A paper was produced and printed, but delivery trucks would not start in the frigid weather, said Mary Webster, adviser to the newspaper staff.
How cold was it here? No classes!

By David Tull

The coldest day in Ohio history closed classes on the Columbus campus Jan. 19 for the first time in 16 years. The shutdown may have staved off some frostbitten ears among students.

Bitter temperatures — a low of 22 below zero — and unusually deep snow put physical facilities staff on all-out overtime schedules and caused some frozen pipes across the Columbus campus. As a result, the wintry weather may have cost the University well over $100,000.

But, all in all, the University survived pretty much intact.

Physical facilities staff worked 24 hours a day during the weather crisis, reported Janet Picotte, vice president of Business and Administration. In addition to snow removal, staff monitored virtually all campus buildings and responded when frozen pipes and water leaks were reported.

But possible frostbite threatened by the bitter temperatures and wind chill prompted administrators to close classes Jan. 19, while offices remained open on the Columbus campus. It was apparently the right decision, in terms of protecting students.

A day earlier, when temperatures were about 10 below zero and the wind chill figured at 40 below, about 30 students suffered frostbite, said Mary Ann Joseph, chief nurse at the Student Health Center. "Frostbite cases came in all week, but all but one of them were the result of being outside Jan. 18," she said. Virtually all of the frostbite cases were ears. "Some even has blisters (from exposure to the cold), making them like second-degree burns. One girl even had blisters after being out only 10 minutes."

Both the cold and fatigue imposed limits on snow removal operators, who nevertheless worked as much as 15 hours a day during the week. The weather hit physical facilities staff with a one-two punch. Snow began falling the night of Jan. 16 and continued intermittently through Jan. 17, when campus was closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. A total of eight inches fell.

"We started plowing Sunday night and continued all day Monday and some Monday night," said James Stevens, associate vice president for physical facilities.

Meanwhile, maintenance crews were out checking many campus buildings.

Starting on Jan. 17, the Columbus campus had 46 broken pipes during the cold snap, including one in the provost's office. Ironically, reports of water leaks died during the coldest weather, because water was frozen, Stevens said. Only as the pipes thawed did water begin leaking.

He estimates that the water leaks will costs about $80,000 of clean-up work. In addition, his office has 2,250 hours of overtime, about $45,000 worth, during the crisis.

There is still another week's work of clean-up, Stevens said. At the request of Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., the University switched four of its boilers from natural gas to oil during the three-day chill, allowing the company to keep gas pressure up for private residences.
Confusion over University closure should end

By John W. Freas

Because there was some confusion over the cancellation of classes in Columbus during record low temperatures Jan. 19, the University is reviewing its procedures for announcing further campus closures.

"The confusion wasn't on the University's decision, but on the media's messages," said John Kleberg, assistant vice president of business and administration. Some stations merely added Ohio State to their lists of announced school closures.

Many staff members, thinking the University was entirely shut down, stayed home. In a memo to employees the following day, Linda Tom, vice president for human resources, instructed those who missed work to take a sick day, vacation day or make up the time lost.

The University Staff Advisory Committee, at its meeting Jan. 26, took exception to the memo. USAC members said employees who missed work thought they were following directions and those who showed up were being exposed to hazardous conditions.

"We were told classes were cancelled because there was a direct public health hazard," said Don Bell, coordinator of academic publications and chair of USAC.

"So why did it apply for students but not for staff?"

Malcolm Baroway, executive director of University communications, said the decision to cancel classes was "to protect from the frigid conditions the people who were most vulnerable, our students. Their cars are the furthest from central campus, with each class change they would be outside again, and many do not own proper clothing for a below 20-day.

In a policy statement USAC sent to Tom and administrators, the group asked that all employees be treated equally during such situations, said USAC member Gun Sehn, sponsored program officer for the Research Foundation. "We want a uniform policy, so everyone knows where they stand."

It may be difficult to have a uniform policy because it is impossible to shut down the campus entirely, Kleberg said.

"We always begin with the statement that the University never completely closes," he said. "You must have the hospital staff, police, grounds people, power plant workers, food service workers..."

Kleberg said the University does have a "severe weather" procedure that was implemented following a snowstorm that swamped the state in 1978. The procedure contains statements that are to be released to the media, which cover a wide range of possible closures.

The problem Jan. 19 occurred, Baroway said, when some broadcasters, who received the information the night before, did not clarify in their morning broadcasts that while classes were closed, offices were open.

The best advice for employees in the future? Listen to campus radio station WOSU-FM 89.7 early in the morning, Kleberg said.

"That will be the official voice of the University," he said.

The word will also be heard on WOSU sister stations, WOSU-AM 880, WOSP-FM in Portsmouth and WOSV-FM in Mansfield, said WOSU executive director Dale Outz. A weather message across the screen of WOSU-TV, Channel 34, may also appear.

Of course, calls will still be made to all other stations, said Baroway, but newscasters still may not read the entire appropriate University statement. Those who aren't in range of WOSU stations and have questions about the closure of the University may call the police station's non-emergency number at 292-2121 or University police operators at 292-OHIO (292-6446), Kleberg said.

Weather messages to be broadcast on WOSU

The following are the current radio and television announcements to be released by the University in the event of severe weather conditions:

Situation A (University open)
The Ohio State University's Columbus campus is open today and classes will be conducted as usual. Weather conditions are being monitored and further information will be announced on WOSU-FM radio at 89.7.

Situation B (University closed)
The Ohio State University's Columbus campus is closed today because of severe weather. All classes have been cancelled and no units will be operating except the University Hospitals, outpatient clinics and emergency facilities. University Hospitals' Clinics are closed as are outpatient activities in the Davis Center and the Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Research Institute.

Other exceptions are the Fawcett Center, resident halls, WOSU stations, University Health Service, Laxson-Hall recreation facilities, Public Safety and maintenance services.

Questions about an event scheduled for today should be addressed to the sponsoring individual or group.

Ohio State will open as usual tomorrow. Any changes in this decision will be announced on WOSU-FM radio at 89.7.

Situation C (University open, but classes cancelled)
All Ohio State University offices on the Columbus campus will open today; however, classes scheduled to begin before (time) have been cancelled; classes beginning at or after (time) will be conducted as usual. Any changes in this decision will be announced on WOSU-FM radio at 89.7 at regular intervals.

Situation D (Gradual closing of University; for deans, directors and department heads)

Because of current weather conditions, a decision has been made to gradually curtail normal operations on the Columbus campus of Ohio State. In order to help alleviate traffic congestion and reduce the chances that accidents will occur, begin reducing staff at (time). All offices must be covered throughout normal working hours.
Correction

In the last issue, onCampus incorrectly reported that administrative and professional and classified civil service staff members who missed work during severe weather Jan. 19 could use sick leave hours.

In fact, the memo from Linda Tom, vice president of human resources, said: “Staff members who did not report for work can utilize accrued vacation, take leave without pay, or arrange with their supervisors to make up the time.”

onCampus regrets the error.
HR announces closing policy

The Office of Human Resources has announced the revised Emergency Closing Policy, a replacement for the Severe Weather Policy now in the University operating manual.

Top University officials received the policy earlier this week.

University Hospitals and the James Cancer Hospital and Research Institute are excluded from this policy.

The statement notes that it is the policy of the University to remain open. However, closing may be required by extreme emergency, such as severe weather, natural disasters, major utility failures or other reasons.

For most faculty and staff, the key source of information on emergency closings will be WOSU-FM radio, 89.7. Other media and procedures established by departments also may be used.

The responsibility for making the decision to close rests with the president, in consultation with the provost, vice president for business and administration and other vice presidents as appropriate.

Deans and directors of regional campuses and outlying University services are responsible for designating closings in their areas. The provost, vice presidents, deans and chairs are responsible for designating essential employees, who are required to work when the University is closed. At least once a year, they must identify and inform those employees whose work is considered "essential" — for example, those whose work affects food service, shelter, health care and safety.

The Office of Business and Administration has developed additional procedures in case an emergency requires closing part of any campus.

For additional information, call Mark Ringer, 292-3017.
Closing policy makes staff status clearer

By Gemma McLuckie

A year ago this month, the state of Ohio was digging out from deep snow and record-breaking cold. Ohio State administrators also were digging out from a blizzard of misunderstanding caused by the cancellation of classes on Jan. 19. Because of incomplete announcements on radio and television, many staff thought Columbus campus offices and departments also were closed and so did not report to work.

A year later, the Office of Human Resources has released a revised policy for closing parts of the University in emergencies. The policy applies to faculty and staff except those at University Hospitals and the James Cancer Hospital and Research Institute.

"We used to say the University was "closed," but really the University never closes," said Mark W. Ringer, director of employee relations. "Some operations simply can't stop. For instance, Residence and Dining Halls must provide services to the students living in dorms, the animals in the Veterinary Hospital must be cared for, and the power plant can't shut down."

Deans, vice presidents and other top administrators are responsible each year for identifying and notifying staff who are considered essential. Essential employees must report even if classes are cancelled or the campus "closed" by severe weather, such as the 22-below-zero temperatures of 1994; a natural disaster; a major utility failure; or other extreme emergency situations.

It is important, too, that departments develop systems for direct notification of staff and faculty. Ringer said.

If staff and faculty have not heard directly from their units but a situation indicates that the University might declare an emergency, they should listen to WOSU-FM, 89.7, in Columbus, the official "Voice of Ohio State." WOSU-FM broadcasts 24 hours a day.

When the other WOSU stations — WOSU-TV, Channel 34; WOSU-AM, 880; Columbus; WOSU-FM, 91.5, Portsmouth; and WOSV-FM, 91.7, Mansfield — come on the air in early morning, they also will broadcast announcements.

University officials will notify other local television and radio stations, but cannot guarantee that the stations' announcements will be complete or accurate.

People who are not in range of the WOSU Stations and have questions can call their departments, or dial the University Information number, 292-OHIO (292-6446), where they will talk with an operator or hear a recorded message, said John Kleberg, assistant vice president for business and administration.

Employees also can call the University Police non-emergency number, 292-2121. However, police will not know if specific departments are reporting to work, Kleberg said.

After the confusion last year, the University Staff Advisory Committee asked that the University review its emergency closing policy.

"We're happy to see the policy clarified," said Kevin King, assistant manager of the Farm Science Review, who chairs USAC. "Next time (there is an emergency) staff will know who has to be called in regardless."
Date: Fri, 8 Jan 1999 23:28:25 -0500
Reply-To: cdittoe@ameritech.net
Sender: owner-libball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu
X-PH: V4.4@lists
From: Chris Dittoe <cdittoe@ameritech.net>
To: "libball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu" <libball@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu>
Subject: COMP TIME IS OWE TO ALL ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES THAT WERE REQUIRED TO WORK 1/8/99. PLEASE SEE BOLD TYPE 111111!
X-Listprocessor-Version: 8.1 -- ListProcessor(tm) by CREN

Subject: EMERGENCY CLOSING
Number: 6.15
Applies to: University faculty and staff
This policy does not apply to the University Medical Center.
Issued: 12/23/77
Revised: 1/9/95
Edited: 10/31/97

Policy
To ensure continuity of services to students and the public, it is the policy of the University to remain open. However, during extreme emergency conditions due to severe weather, natural disasters, major utility failure, or other reasons, the University may close parts of the Columbus campus or any of its regional campuses.

Policy Guidelines
I. Responsibilities
A. The president, in consultation with the provost, vice president for business and administration, and other vice presidents as appropriate will determine when conditions warrant an emergency closing.
B. When an emergency University closing is declared, the provost, vice presidents, and deans are responsible for disseminating information about the closing to their units. Official information regarding emergency closings will be announced on WOSU-FM 89.7 and other local media and/or through notification procedures established by departments.
C. Deans and directors of regional campuses and outlying University services are responsible for designating functions in their areas that will close.
D. The provost, vice presidents, deans, and chairs are responsible for designating essential employees who are required to work when the University is closed.

II. General
A. Regular staff members who are designated as essential and are required to work during a closing will receive compensatory time off, on an hour-for-hour basis, in addition to their regular base rate of pay.
B. Regular staff members scheduled to work but not required to report when the University is closed will receive their regular base rate of pay for hours scheduled.
C. Emergency compensatory time off does not apply to scheduled overtime work or to work performed on a call-back basis outside of the regular schedule. Any such work must be performed in order for compensation to be paid.
D. Staff represented by unions will be compensated in accordance with the terms of their collective bargaining agreements.

This information is from OSU Human Resources Web Site
http://www.ohr.ohio-state.edu/policy/615pol.htm

Printed for Bertha Ihnat <ihnat.l@osu.edu>
OHIO STATE COLUMBUS CAMPUS CLOSING AT 1:30 P.M.

University administrators are announcing that classes are cancelled on the Columbus campus beginning at 1:30 p.m. today (2/13).

- All units are encouraged to release all non-essential personnel at that time.
- Evening activities will be cancelled based on the decision of the sponsoring unit.
- The Ohio State University Medical Center and other essential services (such as police, residence halls) will remain open.

This message applies to the Columbus campus only. Decisions relating to regional campuses will be based on local conditions.

Check www.osu.edu for an update on Wednesday.

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BEGIN-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS

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Teach CanIt if this mail (ID 218922635) is spam:
Spam: https://antispam.osu.edu/b.php?c=s&i=218922635&m=c75039183345
Not spam: https://antispam.osu.edu/b.php?c=n&i=218922635&m=c75039183345
Forget vote: https://antispam.osu.edu/b.php?c=f&i=218922635&m=c75039183345

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END-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS
Frequently Asked Questions: Emergency Closing

The following information is provided to answer questions that may arise about the university's Policy 6.15 - Emergency Closing. The policy is located on the Office of Human Resources Web site, at http://hr.osu.edu/policy/policyhome.htm. Additional information regarding the impact on timekeeping data entry is also available on the Office of Human Resources Web site.

1. **What is Policy 6.15?**
   This is a university policy that generally provides that regular faculty and staff do not suffer loss of pay when the university must temporarily close. The policy does not apply to the Health System (Hospitals), which cannot close, and which has its own policy.

2. **Are there any areas that have designated all of their employees as essential?**
   All employees of the Office of Student Affairs, including regional campus employees, are designated as essential. Employees in all other areas should be notified of their essential status.

3. **How should the compensatory time off, on an hour-for-hour basis, be handled for regular non-exempt hourly employees who are required to report to work on a day the university closes?**
   For non-exempt employees, the total hours worked on a day the university closes should be **manually added** to the compensatory time balance in the HR System.

4. **Do regular exempt salaried employees earn compensatory time off if required to report to work on a day the university closes?**
   No. While exempt salaried employees do not receive overtime pay and cannot accumulate compensatory time off, a flexible work schedule may be arranged for those staff required to report to work on a day the university closes. To accommodate unusual situations such as this, a unit may balance a period of an unusually heavy work schedule with a period of reduced work schedule, without regard to the number of hours worked in a particular week.

5. **For non-exempt hourly employees who are scheduled to work on a day the university closes but who do not have to report, will hours recorded for that day count toward the total hours used to determine overtime compensation for the week?**
   Yes. Those hours for which the employee is paid on a day the university closes should be recorded as regular hours and they will be treated as regular hours for all purposes.

6. **Do non-exempt temporary, term, and student employees who are not required to report to work on a day the university closes get paid for the day?**
   No. Pay continuation for emergency closing is a policy restricted to regular faculty, regular staff, graduate student appointments, visiting faculty, and lecturers, as such a policy represents a substantial cost and is meant to define our commitment to long-term employment relationships.

7. **Do regular staff members who work an alternative schedule, such as four 10 hour days, and are scheduled to work on a day the university closes, get paid for the full 10 hours?**
   Yes. The employee is paid for the number of (non-overtime) hours they would have been scheduled to work that day.

8. **Do regular staff who work an alternative schedule and were not scheduled to work on a day the university closes get paid for the day?**
   No. If a regular full or part-time employee's schedule does not normally include the day the university closes, the employee is not paid for the day.

9. **If a new employee is scheduled to start work on a day the university closes, should he or she be paid for the day, or should the hire date be adjusted to the next business day?**
   If the employee is being hired into a regular position, then the employee should be paid for the day and the hire date should not change in the HR System.
10. What happens if an employee had already requested to use vacation or sick leave for a day the university closes?
The time should be recorded as regular hours and the vacation or sick leave hours should be returned to the employee’s account balance.

11. What happens if an employee calls in sick on a day the university closes?
Essential employees who follow their unit’s policies and procedures regarding the reporting of an absence will have the time charged to their sick leave balance. All other employees will have their time recorded as regular hours.

12. What about essential employees who were required to report to work but did not appear or call in properly?
Essential employees in units who are required to work on a day the university closes are subject to unit policies and procedures regarding the reporting of absences during the period of an emergency closing of the university. Employees who did not follow established unit policies and procedures should not be paid for the day.

13. How will an employee know whether he or she has been designated as essential and is required to report to work on a day the university closes?
Employees should be informed during the orientation process as to whether they are designated as essential and what that means. Units should also send out reminder notices each Autumn Quarter to employees they have designated as essential.

14. What are the distinctions between the different levels of snow emergencies?
Each County’s Sheriff Department is responsible for designating the level of safe driving conditions during the winter months. Each county designates their roadway conditions using the following ratings:

- **Level 1** - Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads are also icy. Caution should be used when driving.

- **Level 2** - Roadways are extremely hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Only those persons who feel it is necessary to drive should be on the roadways.

- **Level 3** - Roadways are closed to all non-emergency traffic. No one should be driving in these conditions unless it is absolutely necessary to travel. Those traveling may be subject to arrest.

15. If an employee who is deemed essential lives in a county that has a level 3 emergency and they are not allowed on the roads, are they still required to report for work?
Essential employees who cannot report to work will have the option of taking vacation or compensatory time to cover their absence provided they follow their unit’s call-off policies and procedures.

16. Can an employee who is deemed essential be granted vacation or compensatory time if they cannot make it to work because their car won’t start or is stuck?
Employees who are deemed essential should try to make other arrangements to get to work if they are having transportation issues. They may be granted vacation or compensatory time to cover their absence provided they follow their unit’s call-off policies and procedures.

17. Should employees on unpaid leave of absence be paid for a day the university closes?
No. In addition, if an employee was scheduled to begin a leave of absence on a day the university closes, they should not be paid for the day. If an employee was scheduled to return to work on a day the university closes following an unpaid leave, they should be paid for the day.
The Ohio State University has announced that classes scheduled on the Columbus campus for Saturday (3/8) have been cancelled.

All essential employees scheduled to work on Saturday should report to work as usual.
The Ohio State University Medical Center and other essential services (such as police, residence halls) will remain open.

This message applies to the Columbus campus only. Decisions relating to regional campuses will be based on local conditions.

The status of all other activities will be determined by the sponsoring organization.

Individuals can check www.osu.edu for status on campus activities.
Attn: Library Staff

RE: Clarification of the University's definition of the requirement that employees report to work last Saturday and Sunday.

The important thing to know is that last year, the University implemented a policy on emergency closing (Policy 6.15). This policy only applies if the university is closed. The University cancelled classes on Saturday due to the weather; however the University was not closed on Saturday and Sunday.

"Essential personnel" is a term that has been used in the past for life safety and medical personnel only. The term has created some confusion as it was used this weekend. To clarify, all HR professionals received the following email from the Office of Human Resources:

To All HR Professionals and Senior Fiscal Officers form the Office of Human resources:

This past Saturday an e-mail communication was issued indicating that classes at The Ohio State University – Columbus campus had been cancelled. We wanted to offer the following clarification:

The University was not closed on Saturday, March 8, 2008 and policy 6.15 – Emergency Closing does not apply to this cancellation. Although cancellation of classes will occur from time to time, this is not the same as a University closure.

The University message was intended as a reminder that essential services must remain in operation and that employees scheduled to work were to report as usual.

All library employees that were scheduled to work were to report to work.

Employees will be compensated for regular hours worked. If the hours worked exceed 40 hours, employees are entitled to overtime pay per FLSA regulations.

Employees will not be offered compensatory time off on an hour-for-hour basis, since the
University was not closed on March 8, 2008.

Employees who were sent home early on Friday, were scheduled to work on Saturday and did not report, or were told by their units not to report must use vacation leave. Units may consider a flexible schedule to allow employees to make up the time as appropriate. For CCS employees, the flexible schedule arrangement must be performed within this pay period. The flexible schedule to be considered for CCS employees must be accounted for within the work week so as to preclude overtime ramifications.

CCS Library employees who were scheduled to work, and did not come to work (even when told by management to not come to work) must take vacation or use flex time on Friday or Saturday (March 14 and March 15). Scheduling flex time must be approved by the supervisor.

The conclusion is that because the university was not closed, all employees who were normally scheduled to work, were expected to report to work as usual. If they did not report to work they may take vacation time or use flex time to make up time missed.

Spam
Not spam
Forget previous vote
1. **What is Policy 6.15?**
   This is a university policy that generally provides that regular faculty and staff do not suffer loss of pay when the university must temporarily close. The policy does not apply to the Health System (Hospitals), which cannot close, and which has its own policy.

2. **What steps should a unit take to prepare for a Weather or other Short-Term Partial Closing?**
   - Designate faculty and staff members in the HRIS as essential, alternate, and standby under this policy.
   - Maintain a hard copy of the designations in case the emergency situation causes IT systems to be unavailable.
   - Create multiple lists depending on the nature of the unit's work and the reason for closure (e.g., FOD may have a snow/ice emergency list, a power outage list, a flood list, etc.).
   - Notify employees annually in writing of their designation and which essential staff may work from home (Sample Status Notification Letter).
   - Make alternative work arrangements for extended closings. For example, a power outage that impacts only certain buildings on campus; faculty and staff could be relocated to computer labs, libraries, work from home, etc.

3. **How should the compensatory time off, on an hour-for-hour basis, be handled for regular non-exempt hourly employees who are required to report to work on a day the university closes?**
   For non-exempt employees, the total hours worked on a day the university closes should be manually added using the earnings code CTA (Comp Time Added) in the HR System, with the following comment for auditing purposes: “power outage week of 9-14-2008.” Do not use the CTE (Comp Time Earned) code as it will automatically put in the time at 1½ times the hours worked.

4. **How do I enter into the system the time of non-essential, non-exempt regular staff who don’t come in to work on an emergency closing day?**
   Use the code “Reg” to enter the time.

5. **What if a non-exempt employee works over eight hours on an emergency closing day, plus overtime for that week?**
   The following example demonstrates how to calculate overtime and university closing hour-for-hour compensatory time for a non-exempt essential employee:
   **Jordan’s work hours for the week:**
   - Monday, 8 hours
   - Tuesday, 8 hours
   - Wednesday (emergency closure day), 11 hours
   - Thursday, 10 hours
   - Friday, 10 hours
   **Jordan’s total hours of work for the week:**
   - 40 hours of regular time pay
   - 7 hours of overtime for the week
   - 11 hours of hour-to-hour comp time for Wednesday, the emergency closure day.

   Hour-for-hour compensatory time should be coded in the system as: CTA (Comp Time Added).
6. For non-exempt hourly employees who are scheduled to work on a day the university closes but who do not have to report, will hours recorded for that day count toward the total hours used to determine overtime compensation for the week?
   Yes. Those hours for which the employee is paid on a day the university closes should be recorded as regular hours and they will be treated as regular hours for all purposes.

7. Do regular exempt salaried employees earn compensatory time off if required to report to work on a day the university closes?
   No. While exempt salaried employees do not receive overtime pay and cannot accumulate compensatory time off, a flexible work schedule may be arranged for those staff required to report to work on a day the university closes. To accommodate unusual situations such as this, a unit may balance a period of an unusually heavy work schedule with a period of reduced work schedule, without regard to the number of hours worked in a particular week. See Policy 6.10 Scheduling Work and Overtime Compensation.

8. Do non-exempt temporary, term, and student employees who are not required to report to work on a day the university closes get paid for the day?
   No. They will not be paid.

9. Do alternate/standby regular staff members who work an alternative schedule, such as four 10 hour days, and are scheduled to work on a day the university closes, get paid for the full 10 hours?
   Yes. The employee is paid for the number of (non-overtime) hours they would have been scheduled to work on that day.

10. Do essential regular staff members who work an alternative schedule, such as four 10 hour days, and are scheduled to work on a day the university closes, get paid for the full 10 hours?
    Yes, but only if they report to work. The exception to this is if they follow call in procedures and the unit determines that they have a legitimate reason why they are unable to report.

11. Do regular staff who work an alternative schedule and were not scheduled to work on a day the university closes get paid for the day?
    No. If a regular full or part-time employee’s schedule does not normally include the day the university closes, the employee is not paid for the day.

12. If a new employee is scheduled to start work on a day the university closes, should he or she be paid for the day, or should the hire date be adjusted to the next business day?
    If the employee is being hired into a regular position, then the employee should be paid for the day and the hire date should not change in the HR System.

13. What happens if an employee had already requested to use vacation or sick leave for a day the university closes?
    The time should be charged to the employee’s vacation or sick leave account balance.

14. What happens if an employee calls in sick on a day the university closes?
    Essential employees who follow their unit’s policies and procedures regarding the reporting of an absence will have the time charged to their sick leave balance. All alternative and standby employees will have their time recorded as regular hours.
Policy 6.15
Weather or Other Short-Term Closing
Frequently Asked Questions

Applies to: Faculty, staff, graduate associates, student employees, and students*  
*Policy 6.15 does not apply to Health System employees. The Health System includes employees of University Hospitals, University Hospital East, James Cancer Hospital, Ross Heart Hospital, OSU Harding Hospital, OSU Primary Care Network, and shared services. Health System employees should contact their human resource department for further information.

15. What about essential employees who were required to report to work but did not appear or call in properly?  
Essential employees who did not follow established unit policies and procedures should not be paid for the day.

16. How will an employee know whether he or she has been designated as essential and is required to report to work on a day the university closes?  
Employees should be informed during the orientation process as to whether they are designated as essential and the nature of the responsibilities attached to this designation. Units should also send out reminder notices to employees they have designated as essential on an annual basis.

17. What are the distinctions between the different levels of snow emergencies?  
Each County's Sheriff Department is responsible for designating the level of safe driving conditions during the winter months. Each county designates their roadway conditions using the following ratings:
Level 1 – Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads are also icy. Caution should be used when driving.
Level 2 – Roadways are extremely hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Only those persons who feel it is necessary to drive should be on the roadways.
Level 3 – Roadways are closed to all non-emergency traffic. No one should be driving in these conditions unless it is absolutely necessary to travel. Those traveling may be subject to arrest.

18. If an employee who is deemed essential lives in a county that has a level 3 emergency and they are not allowed on the roads, are they still required to report for work?  
Essential employees who cannot report to work will have the option of taking vacation or compensatory time to cover their absence provided they follow their unit’s call-off policies and procedures.

19. Can an employee who is deemed essential be granted vacation or compensatory time if they cannot make it to work because their car won't start or is stuck?  
Employees who are deemed essential should try to make other arrangements to get to work if they are having transportation issues. They may be granted vacation or compensatory time to cover their absence provided they follow their unit’s call-off policies and procedures.

20. Should employees on unpaid leave of absence be paid for a day the university closes?  
No. In addition, if an employee was scheduled to begin a leave of absence on a day the university closes, they should not be paid for the day. If an employee was scheduled to return to work on a day the university closes following an unpaid leave, they should be paid for the day.

21. When is the university officially re-opened?  
The university is officially re-opened at the regular time established by your departmental unit or the first shift. Check Ohio State’s home page (osu.edu) for announcements about when the university is closed and when it will re-open. For 24/7 operations, contact the supervisor and/or the unit’s website to determine when to report to work.

22. If an employee is not deemed essential and has not received approval to work but reports to work, will they receive compensatory time off?  
No. The employee will receive their regular base rate of pay for hours scheduled.
23. If shift hours are adjusted based upon weather conditions, and if I only work 8 hours that day, and only a total of 40 hours that week, do I get overtime? No. Overtime is based on hours worked. You’re only paid overtime for the hours worked over 40 hours in a week.

24. If the university closes for a partial day, such as at 1:30 p.m., and I had to stay home to take care of a child or because I couldn’t come in due to road conditions, how does my pay work? You would need to take vacation or compensatory time off if applicable for your regular shift up until the 1:30 p.m. time, at which point, your time at home will be paid. However, if you are designated as an essential employee and you cannot report to work you will need to follow the unit’s call off procedures and use vacation time to cover the remaining hours.

25. What if a non-essential employee comes in and significantly and substantially helps the department out? Look at the guidelines in Policy 3.15, Reward and Recognition.

26. Where can I obtain additional information? Visit hr.osu.edu/policy Policy 6.15

Policy interpretation: Office of Human Resources, Organization and Human Resource Consulting (OHRC) 614-292-2800, ohrc@hr.osu.edu

Payroll questions: Office of Human Resources, Payroll Services, (Payroll) 614-292-2311, payroll@hr.osu.edu
WEATHER-RELATED UPDATES FOR JAN.

Openings, Cancellations, and Closings

Facilities supported by American Electric Power may experience temporary outages, including street signals.

Openings
Science and Engineering Library - open all shifts
RPAC and ARC
Wilce Student Health Center – open except Optometry Clinic
Jesse Owens North
Jesse Owens West
Food Services: Morrill Fresh Express, Baker Buckeye Express, North Commons, Kennedy Commons, Courtside Café in RPAC
Blackwell Inn, including food services
Employee Health Center in Cramblett Hall
Ackerman Childcare Center

Closures and Cancellations
With the exception of the SE Library, all other Libraries locations will be closed. However, access to the Libraries’ catalog and other databases is unaffected by the weather and remains available at http://library.osu.edu.

Younkin Success Center will open at 5 p.m. for events, studying and tutoring

Buckeye Village Child Care Center -- children of essential staff should report to Ackerman Road Center

Ohio Union offices and information center at the Stadium are closed -- more information at http://ohiounion.osu.edu/

Darwin Lecture scheduled for this evening is cancelled. Visit osu.edu/Darwin for updates about rescheduling.

Fawcett Center is closed, including food services. WOSU remains open.

Safety
University Public Safety reminds people to stay off the ice on Mirror Lake
and the Olentangy River. It is unsafe and poses a significant danger. Regardless how well a victim can swim, ice cold water can cause severe hypothermia in less than 30 minutes -- leaving the victim too weak to get out of the frigid water. In addition, the effort to patrol the sites takes essential safety personnel away from other urgent duties.

**Ice Cautions**

- Gauging the strength of ice is very difficult. There is no such thing as 100% safe ice.
- Never walk or drive on cloudy ice.
- Only go on clear, thick ice.
- The thickness of ice is never consistent -- it will be flat on top, but not on the bottom.
- Snow on ice acts as an insulator -- it makes ice warmer and weaker.
- Extreme cold snaps will weaken the ice.
- Ice formed over running water (rivers & streams) is more dangerous than ice formed over standing water (lakes & ponds).

**Transportation and Parking**

All garage gates are in the up position -- anyone on campus is encouraged to park under cover in a garage. Garage roofs, which are icy, should be avoided to clear the new snow.

Two bus routes are running; Courtesy Shuttle (buses will come by each stop about every 15 minutes) and Med Center Express (buses will come by each stop about every 12 minutes).

Handivan also is available. Call 292-6202

All parking lots on campus have been plowed once, and plowing will resume when the snow ends. Parking lots will be as clear as T&P can get to them by 5 a.m. Thursday, however, they will be icy. Customers are encouraged to use caution when driving and walking to/from the lots.

T&P will attempt to clear the North St. John lot and Ag Admin/Fawcett lots to support the men's basketball game tonight, but lots could still be snow-covered and icy.

T&P staff will assist any motorists whose cars are blocked in by snow and/or with jump starts and lock outs as staff become available. The earliest this service will be available is late afternoon, early evening.

COTA buses are free for faculty, staff and students while Franklin County is declared a level 2 emergency.

**Athletics**

Ohio State and Michigan are scheduled to meet at 6:30 p.m. today (1/28) at Value City Arena. The game is still on as scheduled. Michigan is in town
and the officials are making their way to Columbus. As long as the teams and officials are present, the game will be played.

Ohio State students with a valid BuckID will be admitted free to the game, which will be televised on the Big Ten Network.

Students should enter the facility at the southwest rotunda near the corner of Lane Ave. and Fred Taylor Drive. Doors open at 5 p.m.

Current student season ticket holders will exchange tickets as usual in the SW rotunda; all other students will be directed to the terrace level.

Please follow the directions of parking attendants and police around Value City Arena. They are in place to assist.

Check back to OhioStateBuckeyes.com throughout the day for any updates.

As always, updates may be found at www.osu.edu
CLASSES CANCELLED TODAY ON COLUMBUS CAMPUS

Classes are cancelled on Ohio State’s Columbus campus on Wednesday (1/28).

- As always, the Ohio State University Medical Center remains open 24 hours a day, as do other essential services such as public safety and residence halls.
- College and administrative units are closed.
- Depending on the nature of their work, essential employees may be required to report to work on campus or may be able to work from home.
- Students, faculty and staff should check Ohio State’s web page (www.osu.edu) for updates and information about services that remain open.
- This message applies to the Columbus campus only. Decisions relating to regional campuses will be based on local conditions.
CLASSES RESUME, OFFICES OPEN
JANUARY 29TH

All classes will resume on the Columbus campus Thursday, January 29.

The university will re-open effective the first work shift of Thursday, January 29 at the regular time established by the department or unit.

Transportation and Parking has announced that the Courtesy Shuttle will run all night (Wednesday) as usual, and regular bus service is planned to start at 5:30a.m. tomorrow.

Faculty and staff are advised that parking will be difficult because of a lack of pavement lines, snow mounds, and generally icy conditions. Additionally, garage roofs may not be available if the down/up ramps are too icy. Salt may not be spread on all surfaces so snowy and/or icy conditions will exist, and both motorists and pedestrians are advised to take caution.

The five-day weather outlook includes the possibility of more snow and sunnier days later in the week. As temperatures begin to warm, melting ice and snow combined with aged facilities may create a variety of facility issues, including roof leaks, burst pipes, water or other environmental issues that may impact work or classroom environments. Please report any facility issues to Service2Facilities, the university's service center, at 292-HELP or service2facilities@osu.edu. Additional updates and information can be found at this site as warranted.
Columbus campus power outage; some buildings closed
Thursday

The Ohio State University Columbus campus experienced a power outage when construction crews accidentally severed a power line late Wednesday (12/16) afternoon. Twenty-six buildings on the north side of campus were affected. These buildings are expected to be out of power for at least 24 hours as work crews make repairs to affected circuits.

The University will remain open for business as usual, but employees in affected buildings who are not deemed essential in emergency situations are being asked to stay home.

The Ohio State University Medical Center and other essential services -- such as public safety offices -- also will remain open.

Traffic lights may be impacted on Woodruff Avenue and surrounding areas. Motorists are encouraged to be patient and follow directions of traffic officers. If officers are not present, motorists should treat non-working stop lights as four-way stops.

Facilities impacted are:
Bolz
Caldwell
Central Classroom
Central Services
Converse Hall
Fisher College of Business, including:

- Mason
- Schoenbaum
- Pfahl
- The Blackwell
- Gerlach
Fontana
French Field House
Hitchcock
Ice Rink
Journalism
Knowlton
Koffolt
McPherson
McQuigg
Ohio Stadium
Ramseyer
St. John Arena
Scott Lab
Tuttle Park – gates are up and the garage is open, but retail offices (Uniprint and Buck-I-Mart) are closed
Women's Field House

The University will update the campus community about this power outage during the day on Thursday (12/17).
CLASSES CANCELLED TODAY ON COLUMBUS CAMPUS

Classes are cancelled on Ohio State’s Columbus campus on Tuesday (2/16).

- As always, the Ohio State University Medical Center remains open 24 hours a day, as do other essential services such as public safety and residence halls.
- College and administrative units are closed.
- Depending on the nature of their work, essential employees may be required to report to work on campus or may be able to work from home.
- Students, faculty and staff should check Ohio State’s web page (www.osu.edu) for updates and information about services that remain open.
- This message applies to the Columbus campus only. Decisions relating to regional campuses will be based on local conditions.

The OSU Emergency Management web site (http://emergency.osu.edu) will be updated throughout the day.
OPENINGS, CANCELLATIONS, AND CLOSINGS

Openings, Cancellations, and Closings for Tuesday (2/16) (as of 9:30 a.m.)

Please check Ohio State's web page (http://www.osu.edu) and the OSU Emergency Management web site (http://emergency.osu.edu) for updates throughout the day.

If you are unsure if your event has been cancelled or not, please contact the event organizer prior to coming to campus.

• Campuses

  • OSU Columbus – classes cancelled – Essential staff must report.
  • Ohio State Marion – open. Classes and events will continue, as scheduled.
  • Delaware Center – closed.
  • OSU Newark – closed
  • OSU Lima – open. Classes and events will continue, as scheduled.
  • OSU Mansfield – open. All classes and events will continue, as scheduled.
  • OSU Wooster ATI/OARDC – open. Classes and events will continue, as scheduled.

• Open today

Fawcett Center is open (Oxley's Restaurant closed)

Ohio Union at Ohio Stadium (http://ohiounion.osu.edu/)

OSU Child Care open only for currently enrolled children of essential OSU personnel. Contact: 292-4453

OSU Medical Center
Recreational Sports facilities: RPAC, ARC, Jesse Owens centers (operating on a normal schedule)

Schottenstein Center - Black Eyed Peas concert will be happening tonight as scheduled. (www.schottensteincenter.com)

Science and Engineering Library. (All other libraries are closed for the day)

Veterinary Hospital is still open, and will remain open for appointments as well as emergencies

Wilce Student Health Center

These Campus Dining locations are open on a normal schedule:
- Morrill Fresh Express
- North Commons
- Kennedy Commons
- Lane Avenue
- MarketPlace
- Mirror Lake Creamery
- Courtside Cafe
- Juice 2
- Terra Byte Cafe at Science & Engineering Library

• Closures and Cancellations

These Campus Dining locations are closed:
- Campus Grinds at Vet Med Admin.
- Campus Grinds at McPherson Lab
- Campus Grinds at Moritz College of Law
- KSA Cafe at Knowlton School of Architecture
- Berry Cafe at Thompson Library
- Caffeine Element at Prior Health Sciences Library
- Oxley's by the Numbers
- PAD

Faculty Club

College of Dentistry's administrative offices, all clinics, and the dental faculty practice are closed today. All classes and special events are also cancelled today.

Optometry Clinic — at Wilce Student Health Center and main clinic in Fry Hall
Science & Engineering Library will remain open, however **all other Columbus campus libraries** are closed. Access to the Libraries' catalog and other databases is unaffected by the weather, and remains available at [http://library.osu.edu](http://library.osu.edu).

**Wexner Center** closed; all scheduled events cancelled

**Youkkin Success Center**

- **Athletics**

  Check back to [OhioStateBuckeyes.com](http://OhioStateBuckeyes.com) throughout the day for any updates

- **Safety**

  University Public Safety reminds people to stay off the ice on Mirror Lake and the Olentangy River. It is unsafe and poses a significant danger. Regardless how well a victim can swim, ice cold water can cause severe hypothermia in less than 30 minutes -- leaving the victim too weak to get out of the frigid water. In addition, the effort to patrol the sites takes essential safety personnel away from other urgent duties.

- **Transportation and Parking**

  Transportation & Parking Services will have limited services today.

  Transportation & Parking Services has raised the gate arms to all garages (except the SAFEAUTO Hospitals Garage and 12th Avenue Garage) today and are encouraging all staff on central campus to park in a garage rather than in a surface parking lot (regardless of the type of OSU permit that the customer has). Garage roofs, which are icy, should be avoided so we can clear the snow. Garage gates will go back down on tonight, February 17 at 12:01am. Staff still parked inside garages will be allowed out at no fee.

  All parking lots on campus have been plowed once, and crews will work to address problem areas throughout the day and evening. Due to the blowing snow, parking lots will be slippery. Customers are encouraged to use caution when driving and walking to/from the lots.

  Due to the weather, CABS will have limited service today and will only be running the Campus Loop South (approximately 15 minute service) and the Med. Center Express (approximately 12 minute service). Please expect service delays throughout the day as slippery road conditions may delay buses in and around the campus area. Visit [trip.osu.edu](http://trip.osu.edu) from your computer and mobile phone, or text OSUTRIP [space] [bus stop #] to 41411, using the numbers listed at CABS bus stops to receive real time bus
arrival times. Customers who need the Handivan service can call 292-6202 for assistance.

**T&P office in 160 Bevis Hall will be CLOSED today.** Many of the services provided by this office, such as permit sales, citation payments, and citation appeals, can still be obtained via our E-Services online site (http://www.tp.ohio-state.edu/). In addition, you may use the online services to rent a vehicle or rent a CABS bus.
Evening classes cancelled Tuesday at Ohio State Columbus campus

Evening classes are cancelled on Ohio State’s Columbus campus on Tuesday (2/1).

- As always, the Ohio State University Medical Center remains open 24 hours a day, as do other essential services such as public safety and residence halls.

- College and administrative units will dismiss at 5 p.m.

- Depending on the nature of their work, essential employees may be required to report to work on campus or may be able to work from home and should check with their supervisor.

- Students, faculty and staff should check Ohio State’s web page (www.osu.edu) for updates and information about services that remain open.

- This message applies to the Columbus campus only. Decisions relating to regional campuses will be based on local conditions.

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Ohio State News

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