

USAFA Parents,

As you are likely well aware, the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is having a significant impact across the United States and around the world. We must all do our part to help stop the spread of this disease, and take every precaution possible to mitigate risk factors in our communities. At this time, while we have multiple members of our base populace being monitored, we still have no confirmed cases of COVID-19 at the United States Air Force Academy.

After much deliberation and discussion, I have made the decision to begin an orderly dismissal of cadet candidates at the prep school, and our four, three and two degree cadets, while the first class cadets will remain here. No cadet will be forced to leave our campus. Instead, we are providing our population the best possible opportunity to implement social distancing and the other preventative measures recommended by the CDC and our medical professionals here at USAFA. We intend for classes to begin on March 23, and have begun making preparations for remote instruction.

We did not make this decision lightly, and first consulted with our medical professionals, sister service academies and local civic leaders, among others. Ultimately, the deciding factors were the recommendations from our public health officials and the inability to execute social distancing for the more than 4,000 cadets on our campus. We do not yet have a date for our cadets to return to our campus, as our immediate focus will be to mitigate the spread of the virus throughout the Cadet Wing.

I can assure you that my first priority as Superintendent is to ensure the health and safety of our cadets and the greater USAFA community, and that our decisions will remain focused on their wellbeing. My second priority is to maximize the chance of graduating our senior class on time for our Air and Space Forces.

This is an evolving situation that is changing every day. We will continue to keep you actively informed with updates as they become available. Cadets should remain in regular contact with their AOCs for the most up-to-date information.

JAY B. SILVERIA
Lieutenant General, USAF
Superintendent