Aug. 2, 2024

Dear CU Denver Community,

I wanted to let you know that we at CU Denver continue to monitor wildfires that have affected several Front Range communities this week. I’m reaching out to share our support as well as information and resources to help if you are affected by wildfire impacts this season.

**Latest Information:** Detailed updates on ongoing Colorado wildfires, including those near Lyons, Loveland, and the Quarry Fire in Deer Creek, are available on this [Colorado Wildland Fire Status Dashboard](https://www.wildfireconnections.org/). Though as of Friday these fires are predominantly burning in woodlands west of highly populated areas, fire conditions can change rapidly, and weather forecasts remain hot and dry. Be sure to adhere to any evacuation or pre-evacuation notices you receive in your community.

**Work Impacts:** Please know that your health and welfare are our top concern, and we will support those directly impacted by Colorado wildfires.

For those under evacuation orders, CU grants administrative leave, including one day for pre-evacuation orders. [State of Colorado policies](https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/agency/department-of-protective-services) also outline leave provisions for individuals responding to these incidents as firefighters and first responders. If you need additional guidance, please contact CU Denver Employee Relations at [WorkplaceEngagement@ucdenver.edu](mailto:WorkplaceEngagement@ucdenver.edu) and we will work to address your specific question or need.

We recognize that individuals across the region may be affected by impacts related to the fires, including from smoke. Please take necessary steps to prioritizing your own health and safety, including wearing masks or limiting outdoor
activities as appropriate, and we encourage supervisors to maintain flexibility in hours and remote-work arrangements for those affected by wildfire impacts.

**Support Resources:** We recognize that this is a stressful time and that weather and climate trends suggest that wildfires may be a recurring concern in upcoming weeks and months. Please be aware of these CU Denver mental health and safety resources, and we encourage you to keep aware of peers who may be in need of support. Also know you have access to the Colorado State Employee Assistance Program, offering a limited number of free counseling sessions to faculty and staff; call 303-866-4314 for more information.

Our thoughts are with all of those impacted by these fires, as we stay alert to ways we can mitigate impacts for individuals across the CU Denver community.

Sincerely,

teri engelke
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Human Resources