



California
Community
Colleges

COVID-19 Update

April 1, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 13



Virginia White, Ph.D., professor of Life Sciences at Riverside City College tends to plants in the college's Outdoor Plant Laboratory. Produce grown in the laboratory was picked and included in the grab and go food distribution to students.



STATE AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE/EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Gov. Gavin Newsom today gave an update on the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Among the highlights:

- Newsom and State Superintendent of Instruction Tony Thurmond said schools will not reopen for the remainder of the school year and will instead focus on distance learning. The governor [announced an agreement](#) between teachers, classified employees and school system management to support student instruction during that time. [Read the full framework here](#). Thurmond said "it is important schools continue to do what they're doing...so our students can continue to get an education but done in a way that remains safe." He shared similar thoughts in a [letter released Tuesday](#).
- Gov. Newsom also announced a partnership with Google that will provide 100,000 points of access to improve Wi-Fi and broadband service for a minimum of three months free throughout California. Google will also make thousands of Chrome Books available. The California Department of Education will be distributing these resources, prioritizing rural communities.
- In 48 hours, more than 34,000 people have signed up for the newly-established [California Health Corps](#).

[You can watch the full update here](#). (Please note: the broadcast begins around the 3:20 mark.)

The governor on Tuesday [announced a campaign](#) to protect the health and well-being of older Californians during the pandemic. The campaign encourages all of us to check in on older family members and neighbors with a call, text message or a socially-distant knock on the door.

Also on Tuesday, the governor said there's no time certain for state lawmakers to come back to session. The Legislature voted last month to break until mid-April but Newsom said that timeframe is fluid.

Gov. Newsom is holding daily news conferences every day this week at noon. All news conferences will be streamed live on his [Twitter page](#) and the [California Governor Facebook page](#).

Yolo County today [officially extended its stay-at-home order](#) until May 1. Sacramento County is [expected to do the same](#).

Sacramento County also announced [one-third of county coronavirus cases](#) are connected to church gatherings, as Vice President Mike Pence said [Americans should not attend church services](#) of more than 10 people.



SYSTEM GUIDANCE

The Chancellor's Office is committed to providing accurate and timely information to staff, faculty, administrators and students during this challenging time. We encourage everyone to routinely check the [Chancellor's Office COVID-19 resource page](#), as it is updated daily with memos, recommendations and common questions/answers related to the pandemic and its impact on our system. Executive Vice Chancellor for Educational Services and Support Marty Alvarado on

Tuesday issued this [updated guidance regarding the process for requesting a temporary distance education blanket addendum for the summer 2020 and fall 2020 terms](#). The guidance is posted with other updates and memos in the [Chancellor's Office Communications to Colleges section](#) of the resource page.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA GUIDANCE

The University of California system has eased admission requirements for students looking to enroll at UC for fall 2020 and future years, if applicable. One of the measures is suspending the standardized test requirement for students applying for fall 2021 freshman admission. [Read the full announcement here](#).



ONLINE INSTRUCTION

The Accessibility Center will host a webinar tomorrow, April 2, at 1:00 p.m. on Canvas accessibility and transitioning to online classes. Participants will learn the steps to take when creating instructional materials in Canvas as well as how to support students with disabilities during this transition from face-to-face to online instruction. All faculty are invited to join. [Find the registration link here](#).

California State University Chancellor Timothy White will participate in a Q&A session with CalMatters on how CSU is transitioning to online education. The online event is tomorrow, April 2, from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. [Register for the event and submit questions here](#).

The California Virtual Campus-Online Education Initiative has developed an [Emergency Preparedness Resources](#) website for assistance converting in-person classes to online. Several webinars are scheduled to help during this transition. (Please note: Recordings will be posted afterward for people who are unable to attend).



RESOURCES

Cal OES, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, has a [COVID-19 Recovery page](#) that provides guidance on how to submit requests for public assistance and application documents. Organizations can now go directly to the Grants Portal website, create an organization profile and submit a Request for Public Assistance.

The National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators will hold a webinar tomorrow, April 2, at 11:00 a.m. PDT, to discuss COVID-19 legislation and guidance from the Department of Education, and answer some of the most common questions related to Title IV and COVID-19. There will also be time for an open Q&A. [Register and find more information at this link](#).

Interact Communications brought together two marketing and public relations specialists who are on the leading edge of community colleges affected by the current situation in the state of Washington, to discuss how they handled changes to their colleges brought on by the pandemic. [Listen to the podcast and find additional resources here](#).

College practitioners can find COVID-19 resources, information, and community within the [Vision Resource Center](#). Create an account or log in. Under the “Connect” menu, visit “All Communities” and look for the “CCC | COVID-19 Resources, Tools and Discussion” section. Click “Join Community” to access the content within.

For online instruction support requests, please contact [CVC-OEI](#).



STUDENT SUPPORTS

[CVC-OEI has a full page of resources dedicated to helping students transition to online learning](#).

Resources include a number of videos on how to prepare for and succeed in a virtual classroom, as well an overview of Canvas. The page also details the companies offering free or low-cost internet access across the state.

If you or someone you know is struggling with mental health or suicidal thoughts, please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at [800-273-8255](#) or text the Crisis Text Line at [741741](#).

[Pronto](#) is an online student communication platform/tool that integrates with Canvas, allowing for expanded engagement between students and instructors virtually. This service is provided at no cost to faculty and their courses through the remainder of this semester through our Pronto partnership. For more information, please contact [Porter Rappleye by email](#).



HOW TO HELP

Philanthropic and corporate partners, as well as those looking to make a major gift or grant, are encouraged to contact the [Foundation for California Community Colleges](#). Individual donations are also being accepted through the Foundation and will be deployed to individual colleges supporting students impacted by lost wages, campus closures and the transition to distance education caused by COVID-19. [Check here for more details on how to give now.](#)

Food banks across the state are in need of help now more than ever. Please consider volunteering your time, donating supplies or providing financial support. The [California Volunteers website](#) has a list of nonprofit organizations and food banks across California so you can find one in your area.

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a severe blood shortage across the country. If you're able to donate, please visit the [American Red Cross](#) or your local blood bank to schedule a donation.



OTHER INFORMATION

California is providing a path to health insurance for millions of residents. Effective immediately, anyone uninsured and eligible to enroll in health care coverage through Covered California can sign up through the end of June. [Find more information here.](#)

Californians can now track the number of COVID-19 cases by county. [The dashboard](#) provides a localized look at cases and deaths in your area, as well as risk assessments.

Hand washing, surface sanitation and social distancing are all key tools in preventing the transmission of COVID-19 but many wonder how long the virus can live on other surfaces. [A study by the CDC and National Institutes of Health](#) breaks down the risk of picking up the virus from a piece of mail or grocery bags.

For families and educators in need during COVID-19, Google has given a grant to launch [Wide Open School](#)– a free online site that features distance learning resources from publishers, non-profits & education companies.

TIP OF THE DAY

Many of us are now using Zoom on a near-daily basis, sometimes with mixed results. Whether it's unintentional background noise, trouble screen sharing or getting unwanted participants, [this information will help avoid the so-called ZoomBomb.](#)

Did you get this from someone else? [Sign up to receive the daily COVID-19 Special Update](#) under 'Subscribe and Connect.'



Brought to you by the Chancellor's Office, Office of Communications and Marketing
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