



California  
Community  
Colleges

# COVID-19 Update

April 3, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 15



Santa Monica College distributed 250 bags of non-perishable food and 500 meals to students during a drive-thru pop-up food pantry event on Thursday.



## STATE AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE/EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Gov. Gavin Newsom today gave an update on the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. (All daily news conferences are streamed live at noon on his [Twitter page](#) and the [California Governor Facebook page](#).) You can also find more information on [California's COVID-19 website](#).

During today's update, the governor announced the launch of [Project Roomkey](#), an initiative to secure hotel and motel rooms to protect homeless individuals from COVID-19. The project is the first of its kind in the nation and will secure thousands of rooms to house the most high-risk.

[You can watch the full update here](#). (Please note: the broadcast begins around the 7:00 mark.)

The governor on Thursday announced a [new website](#) that will match out-of-work Californians with critical jobs available statewide.

Health officials in [Los Angeles](#), the [Bay Area](#) and [Placer County](#) are advising everyone in those areas to wear face coverings in public. These can include bandanas, scarves and other fabric covers, but officials say N95 masks must be reserved for health care workers and other first responders. The Centers for Disease Control today also recommended Americans wear non-medical grade face covers; President Trump said it is voluntary. [Here are some good tips](#) on how to make your own face covers.

Around 60 million Americans are expected to [receive their IRS relief check](#) via direct deposit by April 15. Paper checks could take much longer. As that process gets underway, [House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is making the case](#) for another federal stimulus package.



## 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. New updates include a memo and fact sheets with information about the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance reimbursement process. Applications are due April 17. This information is posted in the [Chancellor's Office Communications to Colleges](#) section.



## CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY NEWS

California State University Chancellor Timothy White [participated in a Q&A](#) with CalMatters on how CSU campuses are transitioning to virtual instruction. The hour-long chat also includes a student perspective on switching to online learning.



### ONLINE INSTRUCTION

The California Community Colleges Accessibility Center will offer a webinar on Otter.ai, an app that can help students with note taking by recording class lectures and presentations and converting that information into text. The webinar is Thursday, April 9 at 1:00 p.m. [Find more information here](#). To participate in the activities during this webinar, [participants can set up a free Otter.ai account](#) beforehand.

Our partners at SDSU, Dr. Frank Harris III and Dr. Luke Wood, are hosting another webinar: Equity-Minded Student Services in the Online Environment. The webinar will focus on equity-minded student services strategies and practices that can be employed by community college professionals in the online environment, and is a wonderful way to support the *Vision for Success*. The webinar is Thursday, April 9, at 10:00 a.m. [Register at this link](#).

The California Virtual Campus-Online Education Initiative has developed an [Emergency Preparedness Resources](#) web site 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

[Privacy concerns surrounding Zoom](#) are skyrocketing as hundreds of millions of users are now using the site on a near-daily basis. [Here's how to protect your videos](#).

Calbright College is offering free mutual aid support for rural colleges with immediate need for mental health services and laptop / Wi-Fi devices. To keep inventory available, rural colleges have been prioritized at this time. Please contact [tamika@calbright.org](mailto:tamika@calbright.org) if your college has an immediate need and you would like to learn more about what's being offered.

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

Federal Student Aid, an office of the U.S. Dept. of Education, has new information on federal student loan repayment, defaulted loans and Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF). [Find answers to some common questions here](#).

[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](tel:800-273-8255) or text the Crisis Text Line at [741741](tel:741741).



### UNEMPLOYMENT RESOURCES

The state's Employment Development Department (EDD) has processed more than a million unemployment claims in two weeks but many people say they're running into issues with the claims process. [This article offers some helpful advice](#) on how to navigate the application.

The EDD also maintains [a list of resources](#) that people can receive while going through the unemployment process. La página también está disponible [en español](#).

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](#).



### 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](#).

The [California Volunteers website](#) has a list of nonprofit organizations and food banks that are in dire need of volunteers, supplies and financial help.



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. Some restrictions have been loosened to increase the number of people who can donate.



**OTHER INFORMATION**

When can America reopen from the COVID-19 pandemic? Nobody can offer a firm date but [experts can provide some insight](#) into the complicated answer. Google is [launching a tool](#) that will publicly track people's movements amid the coronavirus pandemic, allowing health officials to check whether their communities are abiding by social-distancing measures.

If you’re concerned about whether you have COVID-19 but aren’t sure what to do, the [Cleveland Clinic has a terrific free screening tool](#) to find your risk level, based on symptoms and travel.

**TIP OF THE DAY**

**Cyber criminals are taking advantage of the COVID-19 pandemic to steal user information, passwords and financial data. Be careful of any suspicious phishing emails or messages promising "COVID-19 maps," "Free COVID-19 testing," or with other unknown links. You can also check a URL through [virustotal.com](#), which can confirm if a URL is safe or not.**

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



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