STATE AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE/EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Gov. Gavin Newsom today announced California Health Corps, a major initiative to expand the state’s health care workforce to fight COVID-19. Health care professionals with an active license, public health professionals, medical retirees, medical and nursing students, or members of medical disaster response teams in California are all encouraged to join. Staff will be paid and be given malpractice insurance coverage. Read the full executive order here, and read Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley’s statement on the initiative here.

Gov. Newsom also announced he will hold 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.

The governor late Friday also issued an executive order empowering the Judicial Council and the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court to take necessary action to be able to conduct business and continue to operate while responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation over the weekend temporarily closed vehicular access to all 280 state parks to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The state has launched a website to provide useful COVID-19 information to all residents. It highlights critical steps people can take to stay healthy and includes public service announcements from state health leaders. The website can be found here.

Bay Area leaders today extended the stay-at-home order until May 1.

President Trump on Sunday extended the administration’s social distancing guidelines through April 30.

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 Friday issued this guidance providing clarification.
on maintaining student tutoring during this time. The guidance is posted with other updates and memos in the Chancellor’s Office Communications to Colleges section of the resource page.

ONLINE INSTRUCTION

The Accessibility Center will host a webinar this Thursday, 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.

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

Cal OES, the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, has a COVID-19 Recovery page that provides answers to frequently asked questions, including applicant eligibility, emergency protective measures, and procurement under emergency and exigent circumstances, guidance on how to submit requests for public assistance and application documents.

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.

TIP OF THE DAY

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.
Please note: The COVID-19 Special Update will not publish tomorrow, March 31, in observance of Cesar Chavez Day. Chavez dedicated his life to improving the pay, treatment and working conditions of farm workers, and the California Community Colleges proudly salutes his life and legacy.

Did you receive this from someone else? Sign up to receive the daily COVID-19 Special Update under ‘Subscribe and Connect.’