Santa Monica College, East Los Angeles College and Orange Coast College are among the California community colleges across the state donating ventilators, respirators and personal protective equipment to hospitals fighting COVID-19.

STATE AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE/EXECUTIVE ORDERS/NEWS

The Department of Education has posted the allocation for colleges and universities under the CARES Act. The near $6 billion in funding is to be used to provide direct emergency cash grants to students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. California community college students will get nearly $300 million in aid. Read Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley’s statement on the release of these emergency funds.

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 find more information on California’s COVID-19 website.

During today’s update, the governor announced that, starting tomorrow, California will provide health care workers with hotel rooms at no-or low-cost and free flights for California Health Corps. More information can be found here.

You can watch the full update here. (Please note: the broadcast begins around the 6:20 mark.)

Gov. Newsom today also announced that, beginning Sunday, California workers who are receiving unemployment benefits will begin receiving an extra $600 on top of their weekly amount.

For those wondering why there’s no end date to California’s stay-at-home mandate, despite the flattening curve, this article explains why the state shouldn’t return too quickly to normal life.

The Labor Department reported Thursday that 6.6 million Americans filed for unemployment last week, bringing the total to 17 million. Experts say the U.S. employment rate has jumped to at least 12%, the worst level of joblessness since the Great Depression.

SYSTEM GUIDANCE

Since the release of Executive Order 2020-02 and the corresponding ES 20-10 Emergency Grading Policy and Term Extensions Guidance, the California State University and University of California systems have released guidance on allowances they are making to their admissions policies and practices to address the educational disruption of students affected by the COVID-19 crisis. Review their guidance at the links above or in the “Guidance from UC and CSU” folder in the Chancellor’s Office Communications to Colleges section of the Chancellor’s Office COVID-19 resource page. We encourage administrators, staff, faculty and students to routinely check the page as it is updated daily.
The Chancellor’s Office, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, the California Community Colleges Distance Education and Educational Technology Advisory Committee and guests will host a discussion on Temporary Emergency Blanket Distance Education Addendum for Summer and Fall 2020 to address your questions and concerns. The webinar is scheduled for Monday, April 13 from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Registration information:

Please [click this URL to join](http://example.com). Or join by phone: US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 253 215 8782 (Webinar ID: 202 927 695)

**ONLINE INSTRUCTION**

The California Virtual Campus-Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI) offers a number of online events to continue to help faculty and staff with the transition to virtual learning. Upcoming events include:

- Translating In-Person Strategies to be Effective in Online Tutoring Sessions. The session will be on Monday, April 13 from 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. [Find more information here](http://example.com).

Faculty Support Drop-In Hours for Remote Teaching, on Monday, April 13; 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. These repeat every Monday, Wednesday and Friday and are designed for faculty teaching a course that is shifting online. [Find more information here](http://example.com).

You can also find all upcoming events on the [CVC-OEI Events page](http://example.com).

CVC-OEI also continues to offer expanded [Tier 1 Support for Canvas](http://example.com). For additional online instruction support requests, please contact CVC-OEI.

**RESOURCES**

The California Department of Education and Wellness Together are offering a three-part webinar series that will facilitate an ongoing discussion to highlight practices, programs and policies to strengthen student supports in the midst of school closures. The second webinar in this series will be next Thursday, April 16, from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. It’s a free event, but RSVP is required for attendance and space is limited. [Find more information here](http://example.com).

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.

**STUDENT SUPPORTS**

The Hope Center for College, Community and Justice at Temple University has updated its [Surviving COVID-19: A #RealCollege Guide for Students](http://example.com). This is a terrific resource for all students and offers guidance on how to get money after a job loss, how to reduce bills, how to protect their health and how to relocate or move during this uncertain time.

Calls to suicide hotlines across the country have increased during the coronavirus pandemic. We encourage everyone in need to reach out for help. The California Youth Crisis line runs 24 hours a day, seven days a week: [800-843-5200](tel:8008435200). The [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](http://example.com) provides confidential assistance to anyone in crisis and their loved ones through a live chat and free 24-hour hotline at [800-273-8255](tel:8002738255). You can also text the Crisis Text Line at [741741](http://example.com).

CVC-OEI has a [full page of resources dedicated to helping students transition to online learning](http://example.com). 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.

**UNEMPLOYMENT RESOURCES**

California’s Employment Development Department maintains [a list of resources](http://example.com) that people can receive while going through the unemployment process. La página también está disponible en español.

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](http://example.com).

**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](http://example.com). 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](http://example.com).

The [California Volunteers website](http://example.com) 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](http://example.com) or your local blood bank to schedule a donation. Some restrictions have been loosened to increase the number of people who can donate.
Misinformation about COVID-19 is everywhere. An infectious disease specialist helps separate fact from fiction in this very informative podcast. A transcript is also available at this link if your need or prefer to read rather than listen. Among the pieces of advice: don’t believe everything you read on social media.

We could all use a mental boost right now. A Yale psychology professor who teaches an online class on happiness shares five easy ways to make yourself feel better.

TIP OF THE DAY
If you, one of your students or someone else you know feels unsafe, help is available through the National Domestic Violence Hotline. Text LOVEIS to 22522 for 24/7 help in English or Spanish. If you can’t call, visit TheHotline.org to get immediate help with the 24/7 “Chat Now” feature. You are not alone.

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