



California
Community
Colleges

COVID-19 Update

August 12, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 85



Los Angeles Southwest College construction students were back on campus recently completing the hands-on requirements from this past spring's Pre-Apprenticeship Readiness Program. With the completion of this work, students received the Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program certification and can apply for an apprenticeship through the various, local Building and Trades unions.

The COVID-19 Special Update publishes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.



STATE AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE/EXECUTIVE ORDERS/NEWS

Gov. Gavin Newsom today gave an update on the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. (All 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](#).

Among the headlines from today's update:

- The governor today focused on the state of the economy, saying the "most urgent economic recovery tool" for businesses is stabilizing the virus "to do everything in our power to mitigate the spread of COVID-19." Newsom detailed the actions his administration has taken to support the economy and said the state is working with the economic task force for workforce training to help put employees back to work.
- California now has [586,056 confirmed cases](#) of COVID-19, resulting in 10,648 deaths. The number of COVID-related deaths increased by 1.7 percent from Monday's total of 10,468.
- The state announced 11,645 new confirmed cases on Tuesday, though this number includes backlogged cases that would have been reported in earlier days and weeks and are not an accurate representation of cases reported in the prior 24 hours. Gov. Newsom said the actual number of new cases is around 5,400.
- The state has performed 9.3 million COVID-19 tests; the rate of positive tests over the last 14 days is 6.2 percent.
- The governor said a plan will be announced yet this week on closing the state's digital divide, including expanding access to broadband.

[You can watch today's update here](#). (Please note: it begins around the 5:55 mark.)

Gov. Newsom late Monday announced [actions to support diverse communities](#) disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Among the new initiatives is a coalition of 10 philanthropies that have committed \$18.8 million to support local public health departments in building a culturally and linguistically competent contact tracing workforce.

California paid a price for mask shortage in dollars and lives, [coronavirus study](#) finds.

[No stimulus deal in sight](#): Democrats and the White House are 'miles apart' as relief talks stall again.

[Winter is coming](#), and that means the United States has a dwindling number of months to contain COVID-19. The good news is that it's still possible but the window is rapidly closing.



SYSTEM GUIDANCE/NEWS

The Chancellor's Office is committed to keeping everyone informed during this uncertain time. We encourage administrators, faculty, staff and students to regularly check the [Chancellor's Office COVID-19 resource page](#) and the [Chancellor's Office Communications to Colleges section](#) for ongoing executive orders, guidance memos and announcements. Current and prospective students can also get connected with their local college to find out specific resources and support services available as well as enroll in their local community college.

Vice Chancellor for College Finance and Facilities Planning Lizette Navarette on Monday released memorandum [FS 20-09 – Phase Out of Certain Allowances for Attendance Accounting Methods and Student Withdrawals](#). The purpose of this memo is to communicate the phase out, effective beginning with the spring 2021 semester or quarter, of certain temporary attendance accounting allowances.



BEST PRACTICES

The Chancellor's Office invites you to attend a webinar series presented by our partner, COLEGAS. The first webinar, [LatinX in Solidarity with Black Lives Matter](#), will be held tomorrow, August 13 from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. [Register at this link](#).

CalMatters is hosting a virtual discussion with Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley on how community college campuses are addressing concerns during the pandemic, from the cost of tuition to remote learning. The conversation is Tuesday, August 18 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Current/future community colleges students and their parents or caregivers are encouraged to submit questions and comments. [Register at this link](#).

Over the past several months the Chancellor's Office convened weekly webinars to create a space for continuous information during these unprecedented times. During this time, we have learned that this space has been a reliable and much needed source of information for our system and as a result, we will continue these bi-weekly webinars on the first and third Wednesday of the month. We invite you to join the [Chancellor's Office System Webinars](#) as we pivot our focus from providing COVID-19 related updates, toward tools and resources to make progress on the *Vision for Success*. Our webinars will continue to feature campus leaders and best practices from colleges and districts. **The next system webinar is August 19 and will feature a follow up to the Chancellor's Call to Action.** (Please note: you must register for the webinars through the [Vision Resource Center](#). Once signed in, navigate to the events calendar: Learning / Workshop Calendar and find the next Chancellor's Office System Webinar, then click on the event title to view details and register.)

The CVC-OEI and @ONE continues its [Humanizing Challenge](#) through tomorrow, August 13. Participants can attend live sessions and complete self-guided activities designed to support the needs of the California Community Colleges' diverse students. This event is eligible for flex credit and more information may be found [here](#).



STUDENT SUPPORTS

We know students are looking for extra support during this trying time. We have compiled a list of mental health and other support services available to students and we'll continue to share them on a daily basis.

- With new COVID-19 measures, it's now easier than ever for eligible California community college students to sign up and receive FREE money every month from CalFresh to help buy groceries. The average eligible student receives \$150 each month and it only takes a couple of minutes to apply. Call 1-877-847-3663 (FOOD) or [click here](#) to fill out an application.
- If students have **Medi-Cal** and are in need of mental health services, they can call the number on their health plan membership card, or call their [local county mental health line](#). For help finding what services are covered, call the [Medi-Cal Managed Care and Mental Health Office of the Ombudsman](#) at [888-452-8609](#) Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- If you are concerned about a family in need of food or assistance, or you need resources yourself, call [211](#), contact your local non-profit [Family Resource Center](#), or apply for public benefits, which may include health care, cash aid, and food and nutrition assistance, through your county's [Social Services or Health and Human Services department](#).
- Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the [California Community Colleges Health & Wellness website](#). Specific COVID-19 resources are available on the home page.
- [Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.
- [Each Mind Matters](#) offers resources, tools and activation kits for mental health.
- The California Youth Crisis line runs 24 hours a day, seven days a week: [800-843-5200](#). The [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#) provides confidential assistance to anyone in crisis and their loved ones through a live chat and free 24-hour hotline at [800-273-8255](#). You can also text COURAGE to the Crisis Text Line at [741741](#).

- Our LGBTQ students can also contact the Trevor Project by calling [1-866-488-7386](tel:1-866-488-7386) or text START to 678678 for 24/7 information. The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender National Hotline is available from 1:00 – 9:00 p.m. at [1-800-273-8255](tel:1-800-273-8255). Or call or text the Victims of Crime Resource Center at [1-800-842-8467](tel:1-800-842-8467) for help.



ITEMS OF INTEREST

The coronavirus pandemic is forcing many older U.S. workers into early retirement, with women and men of color [exiting the nation's labor force](#) at disproportionately high rates compared with white men.

“This study tells us pretty clearly that youth who are using vapes...are at elevated risk, and it’s not just a small increase in risk; it’s a big one.” That news from a lead researcher at Stanford, which this week released a [troubling new study](#) on the increased risk of COVID-19 for teens and young adults who vape.

Scientists at the University of California, San Francisco say they have [developed molecules](#), in the form of a nasal spray, which can help fight the virus.

Many of us are feeling it: With no end to the pandemic in sight, [coronavirus fatigue](#) grips America.

TIP OF THE DAY

Housing for the Harvest is a new program that will offer temporary hotel housing to agricultural workers who need to isolate due to COVID-19. It will help positive or exposed workers protect their loved ones and coworkers by giving them a space to self-isolate. Learn more about the program and how it works at [Housing for the Harvest](#).

[More Tips of the Day](#)

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



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