



August 7, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 83



Twenty cadets received their certificates of accomplishment from Allan Hancock College's Fire Academy on July 31, 2020. (Photo credit: Allan Hancock College)

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



#### STATE AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE/EXECUTIVE ORDERS/NEWS

Gov. Gavin Newsom did not hold a news conference today. You can find more information on the state's response to the pandemic on [California's COVID-19 website](#).

The California Department of Public Health and Cal/OSHA [issued guidelines and considerations today](#) that are intended to help institutions of higher education and their communities plan and prepare to resume in-person instruction.

California Health and Human Services secretary, Dr. Mark Ghaly, provided an update today about how the state's electronic laboratory reporting system led to data discrepancies in coronavirus case numbers in California, and what the state is doing to ensure this will not happen again. [Watch the update](#).

Below are the latest numbers :

- California now has [538,416 confirmed cases](#) of COVID-19, resulting in 10,001 deaths. The number of COVID-19 related deaths across the state increased by 1.4% from Wednesday's total of 9,869.
- The state has performed more than 8.5 million tests. The rate of positive tests over the past 14 days has decreased slightly to 6.1%.
- Latinx Californians continue to be disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus across the state, making up 58.5% of all total cases.
- The 7-day [average number of new cases](#) is 7,060 per day. The 7-day average from the week prior was 8,818.

At least [4,748,806 coronavirus cases and 156,311](#) fatalities have been reported in the United States since February. Worldwide, [more than 700,000 fatalities](#) have been reported.

The DMV on Tuesday announced the [expansion of online services](#) with commercial driver's license renewals.



### SYSTEM GUIDANCE/NEWS

Chancellor Oakley this week [issued a Call to Action](#) encouraging colleges, partners and all higher education advocates to contact their Member of Congress, as well as California's two U.S. senators, and urge them to support the use of headcount rather than FTE in the forthcoming stimulus package currently under negotiation by congressional leaders.

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.



### BEST PRACTICES

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Pandemic Action Network are partnering with more than 40 organizations to host [World Mask Week beginning today](#) in an effort to increase the use of face coverings across the globe.

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 are hosting an online [Humanizing Challenge](#) from August 11 – 13, 2020. Over three days, participants will 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](#).

College leaders talked about recent challenges and how they are also focusing on equity [during a webinar](#) on August 6, "Community Colleges Leading the Way," hosted by the Center for American Progress.



### 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](#) 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](#). Or call or text the Victims of Crime Resource Center at [1-800-842-8467](#) for help.



#### ITEMS OF INTEREST

A [new brief](#) from the Committee for Economic Development of the Conference Board (CED) provides recommendations to policymakers for how to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the higher education system.

The American Medical Association [posted an article](#), “7 questions patients might ask about managing risk and wearing masks,” to address concerns people may have as they adjust to the new normal of wearing masks as part of their daily attire.

John Hopkins University launched a [new, online curriculum](#) focused on helping children understand the Coronavirus and the importance of preventative measures.

Mexico has [teamed up with a handful of cable television broadcasters](#) to deliver educational classes for millions of students at home due to the pandemic.

#### TIP OF THE DAY

With all California Community Colleges continuing online in the fall, make sure to be proactive about contacting your professor. Email them if you need help and look for options available to you, such as virtual office hours. See more tips for online class success from [this U.S. News & World Report](#) piece.

[More Tips of the Day](#)

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