The COVID-19 Special Update will not publish on Friday, July 3. We wish you a safe and relaxing holiday weekend. Publication will resume on Monday, July 6.

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:

- Effective immediately, 19 counties (roughly 72% of California’s population and listed in the graphic above) must close indoor operations, including bars, museums, wineries and movie theaters, for three weeks.
- There have been 110 COVID-19-related deaths in California in the past 24 hours, the second most reported by the state on any single day of the pandemic. The only day with more was April 22, with 115 deaths.
- The state on Tuesday recorded 5,898 new coronavirus cases, and 5,196 people are hospitalized statewide due to COVID-19, up 51% from two weeks ago.
- California’s coronavirus test positivity rate has jumped to 6% over the last 14 days, and 6.4% over the last seven days. Gov. Newsom noted the higher rate is because of higher community spread and not increased testing.
- Parking lots at many state beaches near high populated areas will be closed; in counties that have closed or will close local beaches, state beaches will close as well.
- California will enforce public health orders with multi-agency strike teams that will target non-compliant workplaces.
- The governor again implored everyone to wear a mask, saying “Wearing a face covering is a sign of toughness. It’s a sign of resolve. It’s a sign of someone who gives a damn.”

You can watch the full update here. (Please note: the update begins around the 3:30 mark.)

The governor on Tuesday signed an executive order extending authorization for local governments to halt evictions for renters impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, through September 30. The order also extends waivers temporarily broadening the capability of counties to enroll persons into the CalWORKs program, allowing for self-attestation of pregnancy and conditions of eligibility, and waiving in-person identification requirement. It also waives eligibility re-determinations for Californians who participate in Medi-Cal, to ensure they maintain their health coverage, and addresses a number of other issues in response to the pandemic.
Newsom on Tuesday also announced “Homekey,” the next phase of Project Roomkey, the state-led effort to house homeless Californians during the pandemic. State and counties will spend upwards of $1 billion, made available by the state budget signed on Monday, to purchase hotels, motels, vacant apartment buildings and tiny homes to provide services to the homeless.

More than 800,000 new coronavirus cases were reported in June - led by California, Florida, Arizona and Texas - bringing the nation’s officially reported total to more than 2.6 million. The World Health Organization says 60% of all COVID-19 cases were reported in the last month.

“There’s only one enemy — the virus. We need to overcome the politicization of measures that protect all of us.” The former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention today urged government officials and the public to stop politicizing the coronavirus.

The Senate on Tuesday reached a last-minute deal to extend the small-business Paycheck Protection Program through Aug. 8.

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 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.

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

➢ 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.

OTHER INFORMATION
Drug overdoses are soaring right now, a trend health experts are calling a hidden epidemic within the coronavirus pandemic. If you, a student, family member or friend are feeling overwhelmed with sadness, depression or anxiety, help is available. Find phone numbers and links to all suicide and crisis hotlines by county in California. You’re not alone.

The American Academy of Pediatrics this week released guidance advocating reopening K-12 schools this fall, saying the benefits outweigh the risks. The guidance says "schools are fundamental to child and adolescent development and well-being."

Public health experts say there’s little evidence to support that protests after George Floyd’s death led to an increase in COVID-19 cases.

HOW TO HELP
The Foundation for California Community Colleges, in partnership with the California Community Colleges, has launched an effort to provide emergency aid, technology, connectivity and other essential supports to students. Click here for more on ways to support students through this campaign.
TIP OF THE DAY

Using a bandana as a face mask? A new video shows why you may want to reconsider your face covering.

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.'