July 20, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 75

The Fresno City College Police Academy announced 34 cadets recently graduated from its 1030-hour intensive format that began in January. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this class was suspended from March 16, 2020 to April 13, 2020. All cadets and faculty practiced social distancing and wore face masks for the ceremony in front of the Police Academy buildings.

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:

- California now has **391,538 confirmed cases of COVID-19**, resulting in 7,694 deaths. Hospitalizations and ICU admissions have increased slightly over the past day.
- The state has performed more than 6.4 million COVID-19 tests. The test positivity rate is holding at 7.4% over the past 14 days. Both Gov. Newsom and state Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly acknowledged the number of tests needs to increase and test results need to come more quickly.
- There are now 33 counties (out of 58) on the state’s **watch list**.
- The state today released **updated guidance** for outdoor personal care services like hair salons, nail salons and massage therapy.

You can watch the full update here.

The California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) today announced it will **delay the start of fall high school sports** until at least December or January.

The extra $600 a week benefit that unemployed Americans are receiving right now is set to end this week and **lawmakers are not close** on agreeing on a new relief package. A **new relief bill being drafted by Senate Republicans** and the White House would tie school funding to classrooms reopening and is likely to include a version of the payroll tax cut sought by President Trump. **Democratic plans** would tie the benefits to the state of the economy.
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.

WEBINARS/ONLINE CONVERSATIONS
The Chancellor’s Office is sharing a webinar series that will allow all of us to continue learn and connect anti-racism, student success and equity. The Black Minds Matter webinar series, hosted by Dr. J. Luke Wood and Dr. Donna Y. Ford, will include members from all education segments throughout the country (e.g. K-12, community colleges, four-year universities) and address the experiences and realities of Black students in education. Black Minds Matter is a national movement that draws parallels between the policing of Black lives and schooling of Black minds. The webinar series will balance a discussion of issues facing Black students as well as offer research-based strategies for improving their success. The next session Thursday, July 23rd at 11:00 a.m. on YouTube.

SAVE THE DATE: The Chancellor’s Office next month will hold an online forum with the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) leadership. The webinar will take place on Thursday, August 6 from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Agenda and Zoom information is to come.

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
Yosemite National Park appeared to be a safe haven from COVID-19 but tests of the park’s raw sewage have confirmed the presence of the virus.

“We are seeing good immune response in almost everybody.” Scientists at Oxford University say their experimental coronavirus vaccine has been shown in an early trial to prompt a protective immune response in hundreds of people who got the shot.

Despite some serious infections, children have generally had lower rates of infection than adults. Pediatricians and epidemiologists are now looking at schools across that country that will reopen this fall, to study how kids are part of the transmission chain.

If you’re looking for more evidence as to why wearing a mask is so important, a new model from UC San Diego helps illustrate how respiratory droplets from a cough or sneeze can spread COVID-19 and other viruses.
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 ways to support students through this campaign.

TIP OF THE DAY
According to the recent California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) student survey, 71% of students lost some or all of their income due to COVID-19. If you or someone you knows has been affected, visit the ICanAffordCollege COVID-19 FAQ for more information on financial aid and a list of helpful FAQs.

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.’