

July 29, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 79



PROTECT YOUR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY FROM COVID-19.

Cover **Wash** **Remove** **Shower** **Clean**

covid19.ca.gov

We can all take action to stop the spread of COVID-19. We're in this together. (Graphic courtesy of [Office of the Governor of California](#) Twitter account.)

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](#).

Below are the latest numbers :

- California now has [475,305 confirmed cases](#) of COVID-19, resulting in 8,715 total deaths, up 2.3% from Monday. The state today also reported 197 new deaths, the highest one-day total so far.
- The state has completed more than 7.5 million tests; the rate of positive tests over the last 14 days has dropped slightly to 7.4%.
- Los Angeles County has the highest total of positive cases in the state, with nearly 180,000 confirmed cases.

San Mateo County today was added to the state's [watch list](#), becoming the ninth Bay Area county on the list.

No county spared: Modoc County, the last California county without COVID-19, just reported its [first two cases](#).

A [grim milestone](#) today: more than [150,000 people](#) across the country have now died from the virus since the first known U.S. COVID-19 death in February. As the country marks the milestone, the Association of American Medical Colleges today is warning the [death toll could skyrocket](#) "well into the multiple hundreds of thousands," if nothing is done. The medical association made that statement as it released what it called a [roadmap](#) on how to contain the virus.

On Friday, a \$600 weekly unemployment benefit expires, as does the federal eviction freeze on rental units. As time runs out on both programs, lawmakers and President Trump [remain far apart](#) on a new coronavirus relief package.

The [Federal Reserve today said](#) the pandemic "will weigh heavily on economic activity, employment and inflation." The Fed said it plans to keep its short-term interest rate pegged near zero to help provide support for Americans. This comes ahead of tomorrow's announcement, when the [government will issue](#) its first of three estimates of economic activity, as measured by the gross domestic product, for the April-June quarter.



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.

The Governor's Office recently launched its "Wear A Mask" campaign in an effort to promote public awareness about the importance of wearing protective masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office recognizes the importance of getting this information to students and families and has partnered with the Governor's Office to create co-branded creative assets that can be used to help spread the word. A Zoom background (and instructions on co-branding), website buttons, social media graphics and digital banners are now available in the [Vision Resource Center](#).



WEBINARS/ONLINE CONVERSATIONS/RESEARCH

California Competes today launched the [California Postsecondary to Prosperity Dashboard](#), a new online dashboard that provides an expansive look at opportunity across the state. With individual metrics disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, income, education level and region, the dashboard highlights inequitable pathways to higher education and economic mobility.

The [A2MEND](#) Organization will moderate a nationwide discussion across racial lines to discuss anti-blackness and its various impacts on US society. New York Times- Best Selling Authors and renowned scholars [Dr. Ibram X. Kendi](#) (*How to be an Anti-Racist*), [Tim Wise](#) (*Dear White America*) and [Dr. Marc Lamont Hill](#) (*The Classroom and the Cell*) will present on challenges and solutions to equip educators with the knowledge to ensure that Black lives more than matter on their respective campuses. The webinar is Saturday, August 1 from 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$75. [Register at this link](#).

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

With new COVID-19 measures, it's now easier than ever for eligible California community college students to sign up and receive money every month 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.

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.



ITEMS OF INTEREST

As the U.S. struggles to contain the coronavirus, it seems [misinformation on the virus](#) is proving highly contagious.

School districts across the country are debating about bringing children back to the classroom this fall. Here's what the science actually says about [kids and COVID-19](#).

As wildfire season nears, pulmonologists fear smoke will [worsen COVID-19 symptoms](#).



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

A [recently released report](#) discussed how the pandemic has accelerated existing demands for a more skilled workforce, and the California Community Colleges are here to help. Explore programs designed to get you fast-tracked to the career you want. Check out career paths available on the [Career Education](#) site.

[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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