



California
Community
Colleges

COVID-19 Update

June 15, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 61



As California continues to reopen, please help continue to slow the spread of COVID-19. Your actions save lives. (Graphic courtesy: covid19.ca.gov)

The COVID-19 Special Update now publishes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.



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 updates from the governor today:

- California's COVID-19 testing rate has increased and the positivity rate has significantly dropped over time -- from 40.8% to 4.5% -- and has remained stable over the last two weeks.
- The state's COVID-19 hospitalization rate remains stable.
- The state has trained or is in the process of completing training for 7,000 contact tracers, with goal of 10,000 by July 1.
- While the overall state numbers are positive, it DOES NOT mean COVID-19 has stopped spreading. Gov. Newsom urged everyone to continue to practice physical distancing, wash our hands, wear a face covering and stay home when possible.
- He and state lawmakers continue to negotiate on the state budget. Lawmakers yet today are set to send the governor an [unfinished spending plan](#) to ensure they continue to get paid; lawmakers have to pass a budget by June 15 to continue receiving their salary. California faces an estimated \$54.3 billion budget deficit because of the pandemic. [Newsom has agreed](#) not to cut funding for child care programs and health insurance for low-income older adults as part of his plan to cover the shortfall.

You can [watch the full update here](#). (Please note: the broadcast begins around the 5:05 mark.)

Both California and the U.S. hit grim milestones over the weekend: the state has now recorded more than [5,000 deaths](#) and the U.S. has more than [115,000 deaths](#) due to COVID-19.

[The Food and Drug Administration today revoked emergency authorization](#) for malaria drugs -- hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine -- promoted by President Donald Trump for treating COVID-19 amid growing evidence they don't work and could cause serious side effects.

A [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report](#) released today shows death rates are 12 times higher for coronavirus patients with chronic illnesses than for others who become infected.



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.

College practitioners can find past COVID-19 Weekly Webinar recordings and other COVID-19 information within the [Vision Resource Center](#). Create an account or log in. Under the "Connect" menu, visit "All Communities" and look for the "CCC | COVID-19 Resources, Tools and Discussion" section. Click "Join Community" to access the content within.



ONLINE INSTRUCTION/WEBINARS

The California Student Aid Commission this week will host a webinar to discuss changes to the Cal Grant program in response to COVID-19, along with other updates. **The webinar is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** [Register at this link](#).

The California Virtual Campus-Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI) offers a number of online events to continue to help faculty and staff with the transition to virtual learning. You can find all upcoming events on the [CVC-OEI Events page](#). For online instruction support requests, please contact [CVC-OEI](#).



STUDENT SUPPORTS

If any of your students are uninsured and need medical advice, about the coronavirus or otherwise, the Medi-Nurse line is available [1-877-409-9052](#).

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.



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](#).



OTHER INFORMATION

Planning to travel during the pandemic? Here are some [safety concerns](#) to consider.

Another study, this one from UC San Diego, again shows the coronavirus spreads mainly via airborne transmission and [wearing a mask is the most effective way to stop](#) person-to-person spread.

TIP OF THE DAY

The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office [Call to Action webinar](#) features Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley and other system leaders who are encouraging community colleges to actively strategize and take action against structural racism. All six calls to action are available in the Chancellor's Office [letter to the California Community College Family](#).

[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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1102 Q Street, Sacramento, CA 95811 | 916.445.8752