



California
Community
Colleges

COVID-19 Update

June 29, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 67



Los Angeles Southwest College served as the first stop in a national COVID-19 testing program sponsored by grocery retailer Kroger and its supermarket chain, Ralphs. The pharmacy team last week administered COVID-19 tests to hundreds of community members on the LASC campus.

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 headlines from today's update:

- California now has 216,550 confirmed cases of COVID-19, resulting in 5,936 deaths. The state has seen a 45% increase in new COVID-19 cases over the past seven days, with a positivity test rate of 5.9%.
- Statewide hospitalizations are up 43% and ICU admission rates are up 37% over last few weeks.
- Nineteen counties are now getting "[targeted engagement](#)" from the state because of the increase in COVID-19 rates, up from 15 counties on Friday. Solano, Merced, Orange and Glenn counties were added to the list today.
- More than a thousand inmates at San Quentin State Prison have tested positive, along with 89 staff members. Newsom said his administration is considering 3,500 non-violent, non-sex offender inmates for early release but also said it's "imperative" not to release inmates without a place to go and potentially compound the problem.
- The state will be stepping up enforcement of COVID-19 rules and regulations to help stop the alarming recent spread of cases.

[You can watch the full update here.](#) (Please note: the update begins around the 1:15 mark.)

[The governor now has the state budget](#) and is expected to sign it yet today. The California Assembly on Friday voted to approve the spending plan, which addresses the state's \$54 billion budget shortfall. The Senate approved the budget last Thursday.

Gov. Newsom and the California Department of Public Health on Sunday [released updated guidance](#) requiring bars to temporarily close in seven California counties (Fresno, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, San Joaquin and Tulare), and recommending bars to temporarily close in another eight counties (Contra Costa, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Stanislaus and Ventura).

"Los Angeles County is now projecting the possibility of running out of hospital beds in two to three weeks." As the number of cases in L.A. County today surpassed the [100,000 mark](#), county health officials issued a [dire warning](#) that conditions amid the coronavirus pandemic are deteriorating rapidly and the virus is again spreading swiftly in the community.

Sacramento County today [ordered bars to close tonight](#), saying patrons are not practicing social distancing and are contributing to the rise in cases across the county. County officials also reminded residents that indoor gatherings of any size with people outside of your household are prohibited by both local and state health orders.

Contra Costa County today [delayed the opening of businesses and activities](#) previously planned for July 1 until the COVID-19 outbreak in Contra Costa is better contained.

Alameda County today is also [temporarily pausing reopening plans](#) and will be extending its timeline for the next phase of reopening.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer today called on Sen. Mitch McConnell to start negotiations on [new coronavirus relief bill](#) as economic worries continue with increase in cases.

[Tracking coronavirus cases](#) is proving difficult amid the new surge across the country, and Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease expert, says [herd immunity against COVID-19 is unlikely](#) if not enough Americans get the vaccine.

“The reality is this is not even close to being over.” The World Health Organization is [planning to send a team](#) to China next week to try to understand the origins of the novel coronavirus and how it can be contained.



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 the COVID-19 Weekly Webinar recording, as well as past 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.



WEBINARS

The Chancellor's Office College Finance and Facilities Planning Division will hold a webinar on **Wednesday, July 1 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.** to offer details on the 2020-21 state budget and information on the implications for the California Community Colleges. Presenters include:

- Vice Chancellor Lizette Navarette
- Assistance Vice Chancellor Frances Parmelee
- Director of Fiscal Services Keith Nezaam
- Director of Fiscal Standards and Accountability Wrenna Finche

[Register at this link.](#)



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](tel: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](tel:1-800-273-8255). Or call or text the Victims of Crime Resource Center at [1-800-842-8467](tel: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

[Lingering fever, fatigue and fear](#): medical centers nationwide are trying to understand why some COVID-19 patients continue to have [symptoms](#) weeks and even months after having been diagnosed with the coronavirus.

The maker of a drug shown to shorten recovery time for severely ill COVID-19 patients says it will charge \$2,340 for a typical treatment course, a price tag that's already [drawing criticism](#).

[Broadway will stay dark](#) until at least January 2021.

TIP OF THE DAY

Are you, a friend or family member looking to start online classes in the fall? The California College Promise Grant is available for students planning to or currently attending a California community college and waives per-unit tuition fees. Read more about eligibility and how to apply, [here](#).

[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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