



California  
Community  
Colleges

# COVID-19 Update

September 16, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 99



Los Angeles Southwest College's Library staff handed out loaner laptops to dozens of students on Friday, September 11, to support them with their fall semester studies. The students will be able to have the laptops for the entire academic year if they are actively enrolled at LASC.

**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 COVID-19 pandemic. (The updates are streamed live at noon on Gov. Newsom's [Twitter page](#) and the [California Governor Facebook page](#). Find more information on the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic on [California's COVID-19 website](#).)

Among the headlines from today's update:

Gov. Newsom says California is turning a corner in the coronavirus pandemic but acknowledged the state could see a spike in new cases from the Labor Day weekend.

California now has [760,013 confirmed cases of COVID-19](#), resulting in 14,451 deaths. The number of COVID-related deaths increased by 0.5 percent from Sunday's total of 14,385. The state has performed 12.9 million tests; the rate of positive tests has decreased to 3.6% over both the past seven and 14-days.

The number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized across California, and the number of COVID-19 patients in the ICU, both dropped 22% in the last 14 days.

Three counties – Marin, Inyo and Tehama – were able to move out of the highest, most restrictive [Purple monitoring tier](#) and into the Red tier. California Health and Human Services Director Dr. Mark Ghaly said more counties are expected to drop into lower tiers in the next few weeks, which could mean reopening indoor dining, gyms, movie theaters and religious services.

[You can watch today's update here.](#)

"I might even go so far as to say that this face mask is more guaranteed to protect me against COVID than when I take a COVID vaccine." Strong words from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Robert Redfield, who testified today that a [vaccine for COVID-19](#) is not likely to be widely available until next spring or summer. Assuming a safe and effective shot is developed, federal health agencies said they have created a sweeping plan to make vaccines for COVID-19 available for [free to all Americans](#).

President Trump today called on congressional Republicans to support a massive economic relief bill with “much higher numbers” and stimulus payments for Americans, [abruptly proposing an entirely different plan than what the Senate GOP sought to advance in recent days](#).



### 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](#) and the [Chancellor’s Office Communications to Colleges section](#) 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.

Gov. Newsom today announced the [first round of awards for Homekey](#), California’s \$600 million program to purchase and rehabilitate housing for people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness. The City of El Centro has been awarded \$3 million to build 13 tiny home duplexes in collaboration with Imperial Valley College and the Imperial Valley College Foundation. The duplexes will house 26 homeless students who identify as former foster youth.



### BEST PRACTICES

College practitioners will be able to find a recording of today’s [Chancellor’s Office System Webinar](#) on the [Vision Resource Center](#).

*We invite you to join us for the biweekly webinars as the Chancellor’s Office turns its focus from providing COVID-19 related updates, toward tools and resources to make progress on the [Vision for Success](#). Our webinars will continue to feature campus leaders and best practices from colleges and districts. **The next webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14 from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.***

The CVC-OEI has seats remaining in upcoming sessions of its Online Teaching & Design course. This 12-week course shows participants how to create the course they've always dreamed of teaching. You'll explore online learning theory, approaches to online course design and strategies for supporting student success. **Sessions begin on September 21 and September 28. To learn more and register: visit <https://catalog.onlinenetworkofeducators.org/>.**

Save the date for the next Chancellor’s Office and POST forum, Evidence-Based Policing: Fundamentals and Concepts. In this forum, a panel of experts will define this promising methodology and explain how it can better equip policymakers, from elected and police chiefs to front-line supervisors and rank-and-file officers, to make strategic and tactical decisions about a range of issues, from police agency management to culture, from training to the deployment of police resources, and from crime prevention to community interactions. **The forum is Tuesday, September 29 from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.**

<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/95411287773?pwd=czl6SkN0aXlzUVg4K3NSTCtjazh0Zz09>

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Webinar ID: 954 1128 7773

International numbers available: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/adXIZ16Esf>



### STUDENT SUPPORTS

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

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

➤ 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](tel: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**

Pivoting during the pandemic: How [community colleges are serving the most vulnerable](#) during this unprecedented time.

A crisis our system understands all too well: Low-income students across the country are [dropping out of college](#) this fall in alarming numbers.

With the fall semester in full swing, college campuses have become the pandemic's newest hot spots. And now [colleges are straining](#) under the financial pressures.

We’ve celebrated many holidays differently this year, and Halloween will likely be no exception. Dr. Ghaly says traditional [trick-or-treating is not advised](#).

**TIP OF THE DAY**

**Unsure of your career path? [Explore](#) the career education training programs available at California community colleges that can lead to a good paying job.**

[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.’