



California  
Community  
Colleges

# COVID-19 Update

September 18, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 100



Laney College is making sure students receive fresh and healthy meals during this time of uncertainty. The college, along with partners Eat. Learn. Play. Foundation and World Central Kitchen, distributes around 1,560 meals and 420 boxes of fresh produce per week.

**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 COVID-19 update today. You can find the latest information on the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic on [California's COVID-19 website](#).

Gov. Newsom on Thursday [signed two bills](#) as part of his worker protection package. SB 1159 expands access to workers' compensation and makes it easier for first responders, health care workers and people who test positive due to an outbreak at work to get support, including necessary medical care and wage replacement benefits. AB 685 ensures timely notification to employees and local and state public health officials of COVID-19 cases at workplaces.

California now has [769,831 confirmed cases of COVID-19](#), resulting in 14,812 deaths. The number of COVID-related deaths increased by 0.6% from Wednesday's total of 14,721. The state has performed 13.1 million tests; the rate of positive tests over the past 14 days decreased to 3.4%.

[Unemployment fell again](#) in California last month but the economy has still recovered only one-third of the jobs that were lost to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Employment Development Department today reported the state's unemployment rate fell to 11.4% in August, down from 13.5% the month before.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention today dropped a controversial piece of coronavirus guidance and said [anyone who has been in close contact with an infected person should get tested](#). The CDC returned to its previous testing guidance, getting rid of language posted last month that said people didn't need to get tested if they didn't feel sick.

At least [194,000 people](#) have died of the novel coronavirus in the United States since February. More than 6.6 million cases have been reported in the U.S., while the global case count [passed the 30 million mark](#) on Thursday. This comes as the World Health Organization issued a warning over an [“alarming rates of transmission”](#) of COVID-19 across Europe.”

A push is underway across the country to [test COVID-19 vaccines in diverse groups](#). Scientists say a diverse group of test subjects is vital to determining whether a vaccine is safe and effective for everyone and instilling broad public confidence in the shots once they become available.



### 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.



### BEST PRACTICES

College practitioners will be able to find a recording of this week'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 [Vision Resource Center](#) is proud to launch the Faculty Community that is geared to support faculty connection and communication across the state. Faculty can ask questions, share promising practices and resources, and provide feedback and input for ongoing systemwide efforts.

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/>.**



### 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](#) 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.



**ITEMS OF INTEREST**

The number of Americans who would be willing to get a coronavirus vaccine if it were available today has dropped significantly from a few months ago, according to a new survey from [Pew Research Center](#). Seventy-eight percent said they were concerned a vaccine would be approved too quickly and without fully establishing that the vaccine is safe and effective.

A new [editorial published in the BMJ medical journal](#) suggests that up to 50% of people may have some preexisting immunity against COVID-19.

“Fear is really damaging to a person's self-esteem and sense of identity.” A group of high school students interviewed nearly 1,000 young Asian Americans to explore how youths are dealing with the pandemic-fueled rise in racism. The report shows [one in four Asian American youths experience racist bullying](#), in the form of verbal harassment, shunning and cyberbullying.

**TIP OF THE DAY**

Do you need school supplies like Microsoft Office or a USB cable? Find exclusive savings for California college students [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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