



California  
Community  
Colleges

# COVID-19 Update

August 31, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 93



*Mt. San Jacinto College last week teamed up with Riverside County health officials to hand out 60,000 free face masks during a drive-up event at the college's Menifee Valley campus. The event was part of the county's monthlong "Masks Are Medicine" campaign. (Photo courtesy of the MSJC Public Information and Marketing Office.)*

***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](#).

California now has [704,085 confirmed cases of COVID-19](#), resulting in 12,933 deaths. The number of COVID-related deaths increased by 0.2 percent from Saturday's total of 12,905.

The number of COVID-19 diagnostic test results in California reached a total of 11.3 million. The rate of positive tests over the last 14 days is 5.3%.

Following the announcement that California has signed a contract with a diagnostics company to increase the state's capacity to test for COVID-19, Gov. Newsom late Friday [signed an executive order](#) to help the state build out its own laboratory capabilities. The order will expedite efforts by the Department of General Services and the Department of Public Health to establish and operate up to three sites for use as laboratories to increase the state's COVID-19 testing capacity.

Also on Friday, Gov. Newsom, Senate President pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins (D-San Diego) and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) [announced that they have reached agreement on AB 3088](#) to protect millions of tenants and small property owners from the economic impacts of COVID-19.

Another grim milestone as the U.S. today topped [6 million confirmed COVID-19 cases](#), according to [Johns Hopkins University](#). The U.S. has reported a million more coronavirus cases and about 21,000 more deaths in just the past three weeks. What happens next, says Dr. Birx, [is up to us](#).

"No country can just pretend the pandemic is over," warned World Health Organization Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, who said that countries [risk reopening too soon](#) if the pandemic is still raging.

A Zoom Thanksgiving? As the Summer of COVID draws to a close, many experts fear an [even bleaker fall](#) and suggest that American families should start planning for a very different holiday season.



## 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**

We invite you to join the biweekly [Chancellor’s Office System Webinars](#) as we pivot our 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, September 2 from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

*College practitioners can find a recording of the previous system webinar [at this link](#) or on the [Vision Resource Center](#). The webinar served as a follow up to the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office Call to Action and featured California community college leaders presenting structural changes, tools and dialogue to help campuses prioritize an anti-racist campus culture.*

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**

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](#) 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 college sports programs pivot, [mental health becomes bigger priority](#) for coaches.

A positive side effect: A study shows California's stay-at-home order in response to the coronavirus outbreak [seems to have saved some wildlife](#).

**TIP OF THE DAY**

Have you lost your job during the COVID-19 pandemic? The State of California is here to help! [Onwardca.org](#) is a one-stop resource for people whose jobs have been impacted.

[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.’



Brought to you by the Chancellor’s Office, Office of Communications and Marketing  
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