



California
Community
Colleges

COVID-19 Update

August 17, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 87



**BE
KIND**

**WEAR
A MASK**



Fresno City College students are doing their part to keep everyone safe amid the COVID-19 pandemic. (Photo courtesy [Fresno City College twitter](#).)

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 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:

- The governor today opened his news conference by addressing the historic heat wave the state is facing, calling the [rolling blackouts](#) unacceptable and asking all residents to conserve power as much as possible.
- Turning to COVID-19, the governor announced California now has [621,562 confirmed cases of COVID-19](#), resulting in 11,224 deaths. The number of COVID-related deaths increased by 0.7 percent from Friday's total of 11,147.
- There are now 42 counties on the state's [monitoring watch list](#), including Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Mendocino and Sierra counties. Santa Cruz County was removed from the list.
- The state has performed 9.7 million COVID-19 tests; the rate of positive tests over the last 14 days increased slightly to 6.4 percent.

[You can watch today's update here.](#) (Please note: it begins around the 5:15 mark.)

The Los Angeles Unified School District on Sunday [announced a plan](#) to test all students and teachers for COVID-19, even as the school year begins virtually.

The IRS says some parents will get a stimulus check this fall. [Here's what to know.](#)



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

CalMatters is hosting a virtual discussion with Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley on how community college campuses are addressing concerns during the pandemic, from the cost of tuition to remote learning. The conversation is tomorrow, Tuesday, August 18 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Current/future community colleges students and their parents or caregivers are encouraged to submit questions and comments. [Register at this link.](#)

Over the past several months the Chancellor’s Office convened weekly webinars to create a space for continuous information during these unprecedented times. During this time, we have learned that this space has been a reliable and much needed source of information for our system and as a result, we will continue these bi-weekly webinars on the first and third Wednesday of the month. We invite you to join the [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 system webinar is Wednesday, August 19. It will serve as a follow up to the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office Call to Action and will feature California community college leaders, through their individual lens, presenting structural changes, tools and dialogue that campuses must prioritize to nurture an anti-racist campus culture. (Please note: you can register for the webinars through the [Vision Resource Center](#). Once signed in, navigate to the events calendar: Learning / Workshop Calendar and find the next Chancellor’s Office System Webinar, then click on the event title to view details and register.) You can also tune in through the webinar’s [LIVEstream](#) option.



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

Packed bars, off-campus parties and no social distancing: Universities across the country are now [struggling to deal with virus outbreaks](#).

Coronavirus hasn't [devastated the homeless](#) as many feared.

TIP OF THE DAY

Get your questions answered! To find local financial aid advisors and workshops in your area, enter your zip code on this convenient [financial aid office locator tool](#). You can also check out our [FAQs](#) for answers to the most commonly asked financial aid questions.

[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