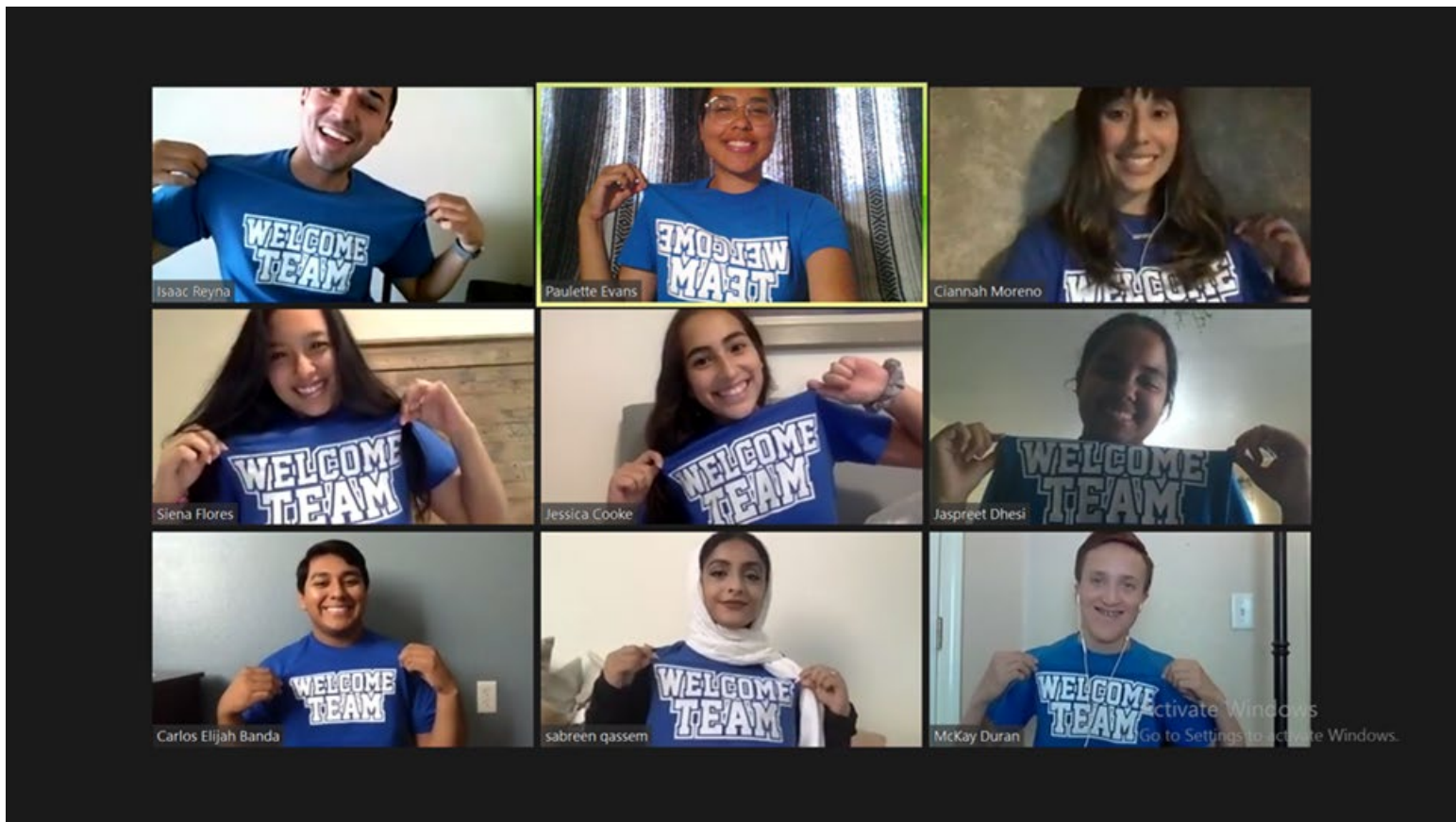




California
Community
Colleges

COVID-19 Update

September 4, 2020 – COVID-19 Update No. 95



The Clovis Community College Welcome Team is always available, even virtually, to help new students begin a successful transition to college. (Photo courtesy of Clovis Community College)

The COVID-19 Special Update will not publish on Monday, September 7 in observation of Labor Day. Publication will resume on Wednesday, September 9.



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 an executive order](#) extending consumer protections against price gouging through March 4, 2021 as California continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The protections generally prohibit sellers of any kind from increasing prices on food, consumer goods, medical or emergency supplies, and certain other items by more than 10%.

California now has [722,283 confirmed cases of COVID-19](#), resulting in 13,490 deaths. The number of COVID-related deaths increased by 1.2% from Wednesday's total of 13,327. The state has performed 11.7 million COVID-19 tests and the rate of positivity over the last 14 days has dropped to 4.9%.

Nineteen percent of Californians - nearly one in five - [personally knew someone who died of COVID-19](#), according to a new poll. For Black and Latino populations, who have died at disproportionate rates from the disease, those figures jump to 28% and 29%, respectively.

The global death toll from the [coronavirus](#) pandemic could triple by year's end, with an additional 1.9 million deaths, while a fall wave of infections could drive fatalities in the United States to 410,000, according to a [new forecast](#) from the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the University of Washington.

[U.S. unemployment dropped in August](#) from 10.2% to a still-high 8.4%, with about half the 22 million jobs lost to the coronavirus outbreak recovered so far. Employers added 1.4 million jobs last month, down from 1.7 million in July and the fewest since hiring resumed in May. And an increasingly large share of Americans reported that their jobs are [gone for good](#), according to the [Labor Department report](#).

The Trump administration [plans to enforce federal standardized testing requirements](#) for K-12 schools despite the pandemic, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos announced to state leaders on Thursday.

Labor Day weekend [will set the course for the coronavirus this fall](#): 'We may have some hard days ahead.'



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, September 16 from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

The [California Community Colleges Accessibility Center](#) will offer a webinar on the Pope Tech Instructor A11y Guide. The discussion will offer the opportunity to ask questions and share best practices regarding web, document and assistive technology accessibility issues. Audience participation is welcome. The webinar is Thursday, September 10 at 1:00 p.m. [Connection details are available here](#).

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

The COVID-19 pandemic has raised new financial and logistical challenges for many people and cut them off from their usual support systems. With September being National Suicide Prevention Month, [experts say access to therapy and family support](#) are key right now.

Remembering the lives lost to COVID-19: The '[Faces of COVID](#)' Twitter page puts [human face on toll of coronavirus](#).

TIP OF THE DAY

California wildfire season started early this year. Make sure you are staying up to date on all information and potential evacuations and resources for emergency preparedness through [CAL FIRE’s website](#).

[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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