

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT/SUPERINTENDENT
PRESIDENT'S CAMPUS UPDATES



To: Campus Community
From: Jose Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D., President/Superintendent Cerritos College
Date: 3/12, 2020
Subject: Conversion to Online Learning and Activation of Emergency Operational Procedures

Dear Cerritos College Family,

Cerritos College leadership continues to monitor the developments of coronavirus (COVID-19) on our campus and in our local communities. **At this time there are zero reports of students or district employees testing positive for the coronavirus.**

In accordance with [Board Policy 3505](#) and [Administrative Procedure 3505](#), the District's crisis management response team agreed to declare a State of Emergency, authorizing the President/Superintendent and/or his designee to take any and all actions necessary to ensure the continuation of public education, and the health and safety of the students and staff.

When strict compliance with various statutes and regulations would prevent, hinder or delay appropriate actions to prevent and mitigate the effects of COVID-19, it is imperative to prepare for and implement measures to respond to the potential spread of COVID-19, and it is imperative to have the tools to ensure student learning continues if student education needs to be conducted from alternate locations or virtual learning environments. Please also be informed: as public employees, Government Code Sections 3100-3101 state that all employees of the District are declared civil defense workers during emergencies, subject to such defense activities as may be assigned to them.

In order to reduce community transmission rates, we are implementing strategies to reduce the number of students on campus. Below is a **brief** summary of those strategies. More details from the offices of Academic Affairs, Human Resources and Student Services will follow.

CONVERSION TO ONLINE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT – TIMELINE BELOW

March 16 to March 22: The campus will recess to spring break as previously scheduled. There will be no instruction, and operations will continue as normal. We will implement social distancing measures (remaining out of congregate settings, avoiding mass gatherings, and maintaining distance—approximately 6 feet or 2 meters—from others when possible). Some hours may be adjusted.

March 23 to March 29: Classes are **cancelled** during this week. We will utilize this time to transition to online instruction. We will continue to implement social distancing.

March 30: Classes will resume in an online learning environment or in modified format through the end of the term.

CAMPUS MEETINGS – EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

While the college remains open, all committees must convert to alternative meeting formats. Please take advantage of existing tools, [like ZOOM](#).

CAMPUS EVENTS – CANCELLED THROUGH APRIL 30, 2020

Per the [Office of the Governor](#), non-essential gatherings must be limited to no more than 250 people, while smaller events can proceed only if the organizers can implement social distancing of 6 feet per person. Gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should be limited to no more than 10 people, while also following social distancing guidelines.

Effective **Monday, March 16 through April 30**, all Cerritos College events, fundraisers, and external organizations renting facilities must be cancelled to limit the potential spread of COVID-19.

If your event can be postponed to a later date, please feel free to do so. However, this situation remains dynamic and further cancellations may be warranted. It is recommended that you contact your area Vice President to discuss any event postponement or potential events that may be impacted.

TRAVEL – EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Faculty, staff, and students are [strongly discouraged from travel](#) to protect community health. If you need to cancel a [planned work trip](#), please discuss with your manager and/or area Vice President for guidance.

Our challenge as a district is to minimize the impact to our students during these uncertain times and provide all the needed support to our Cerritos College family.

We continue to monitor information and guidance provided from the:

- California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
- California Department of Public Health
- Los Angeles County Public Health Department, and
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Please know that guidance is changing rapidly. We will continue to provide updated recommendations on how to protect yourself and what to communicate to staff and students. Please know that all updates will also be uploaded to our [website](#).

Thanks,

Jose

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STAY CONNECTED



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