

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT/SUPERINTENDENT
PRESIDENT'S CAMPUS UPDATES



April 10, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

It was nice to “see” a few of you at our virtual President’s Hour this week. Having the opportunity to chat with you helps me feel connected to our Cerritos College family. I hope all of you are finding ways to connect with one another and I thank you for taking the time to connect with me.

This update is a bit lengthy, but it can be summed up in a few brief words—Cerritos College is as active as ever! Topics in this update will include the following:

- Foundation Scholarships and Aid to Students
- Instructional Equipment for Students
- Drive-Thru Food Distribution at the College
- Guidance for Face Coverings
- Essential Staff on Campus
- “Shout Out” to Facilities Department

Foundation Scholarships and Aid to Students

The Student Services Office and our Foundation are doing an incredible job working together to provide support to our students via the Student Emergency Fund. The Foundation already disbursed **over \$20,000 in cash and grocery gift cards to students** in need! Their swift action comes at a time when students need us the most. This would not be possible without the tremendous support we continue to receive from our employees and the community. The Foundation received [over \\$23,000 via the campaign website](#) and continues to reach out for additional support.

Instructional Equipment for Students

The message was loud and clear—some of our students desperately need laptops and webcams to continue their education. Today, April 9, the district will deliver nearly over 100 laptops and webcams through a drive-up process to maintain social distancing. We continue to assess students’ needs and make every effort to help them during this transition. Currently, we are in the process of purchasing additional laptops for our students.

LA Regional Food Bank Drive-Thru Food Distribution

The college continues its partnership with the LA Food Bank. On Tuesday, April 14 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm we will host a drive-thru food distribution. Please [see the flyer](#) for more details.

Guidance for Face Coverings

Within the last few days, the [CDC](#) and the [County](#) issued new recommendations strongly encouraging people to wear a clean face covering while in public to curb the spread of COVID-19. Masks are encouraged to be worn over the nose and mouth for people who are engaged in essential activities along with social distancing measures.

Face coverings do not substitute for appropriate hand washing, regularly disinfecting surfaces, and social distancing. New data suggests that face coverings help to slow the spread of COVID-19 by reducing the potential exposure of someone who may unknowingly have coronavirus from spreading it within the community.

Essential Staff on Campus

Per the College's State of Emergency Operations Plan, essential staff are still on campus in a limited capacity. Essential departments include Fiscal Services, Facilities, IT, Purchasing, and Campus Police. Managers of these areas have been issued washable, cloth face coverings that have been distributed to all essential staff on campus. We encourage essential staff to wear face masks while performing their duties on campus during COVID-19 modified operations.

"Shout Out" to Facilities Department

Last but definitely not least, please join me in expressing sincere gratitude to the Facilities department for their outstanding work to keep the college clean and disinfected, especially in high-touch surfaces. These areas include restrooms and office areas while essential staff remains on campus. Facilities staff use medical-grade disinfectant supplies and high-powered equipment to keep the campus as sanitized as possible.

It is up to all of us to do what we can to stay safe; practice good prevention strategies such as social distancing, regular hand washing, and wearing a face covering in public places. While times are uncertain, I am more than confident that we will get through this crisis together. **We are #CerritosStrong.**

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Jose

Jose Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent