

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT/SUPERINTENDENT
PRESIDENT'S CAMPUS UPDATES



From: Fierro, Jose L.

Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2020 4:33 PM

Subject: Fall Semester Information

Dear Colleagues,

As I mentioned in my last update, the district has been considering various course delivery options for the fall semester, all of which hinge upon continued direction from state and local officials. After several meetings with our constituent group leaders, I provided an update to the Board of Trustees on Wednesday, May 6. The general consensus from the Board and from our group leaders is that **we will mostly continue to operate in an online format in the fall semester, with some notable exceptions.**

The exceptions to the online class format will be what we call Group 1 and Group 2 lab classes, Group 1 classes will primarily consist of CTE and Health Occupations lab classes that we are unable to offer online for various reasons. We make this decision based on maintaining utmost safety on campus while balancing the academic integrity and sustainability of our programs for our students.

Group 1 lab classes will be offered on campus, and they will look different than in previous semesters. For instance, we will need to reduce the number of students in each lab and practice social distancing measures. In addition, the lecture portions of lab classes will continue to be offered online only, and this will remain the case for all *lecture* classes in the fall.

As the fall semester approaches, if we find that the health data is favorable, we will also consider offering a Group 2 lab classes on campus. These classes are hands-on lab courses (such as Organic Chemistry and Physics). While the faculty have done a fantastic job offering these classes online, we know that students can benefit from a more hands-on lab experience.

The overall priority is to maintain a low number of individuals on campus. By doing this, we can ensure adequate PPE and safe sanitization procedures by our phenomenal Facilities staff. We will also implement additional procedures such as social distancing, health questionnaires, and temperature checks.

Most of us will continue to do our work remotely, and as you know, we do this because we want to ensure the continued health of each other and our students. My commitment to you is that Cerritos College will continue to make campus-wide decisions with the safety of our students and employees at the forefront.

We recognize that continuing to work online requires additional investment from the district in areas such as infrastructure and software; rest assured that we are moving forward in these areas. But equally important is the need for continued innovation and resilience by all of our Cerritos College family. Keep pushing forward and we will get through this. I cannot promise smooth sailing ahead, but I am certain we will weather this storm and come through stronger than ever.

You will receive more specific information with regard to the fall semester as we continue to roll out our plan, but I wanted to let you know the overall direction as soon as possible. You can watch the board meeting discussion here by clicking on the video button at the top of the following web page: [Item 2.03 Discussion of Fall Course Delivery Options](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Jose

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