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CHANCELLOR RODRIGUEZ STATEMENT TO THE LACCD COMMUNITY ON SAFER AT HOME ORDERS TO COMBAT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS

LOS ANGELES—The following statement was sent this evening, March 19, 2020, by Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez to all faculty and staff personnel to update them on the “Safer At Home” orders by county health officials and elected leaders and what this means to the LACCD community.

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

March 19, 2020

Dear LACCD Colleagues,

Late this afternoon, the Health Officer from the [Los Angeles County Department of Public Health](#), in conjunction with the top elected leaders for Los Angeles County, the Cities of Los Angeles, Pasadena and Long Beach, gave [the order](#) for all residents within the County of Los Angeles to stay home until April 19, 2020. California Governor Gavin Newsom also announced this evening that “Safer at Home” orders are now [expanded statewide](#) until further notice.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR LACCD

Effective immediately, I am directing that all LACCD faculty, staff and students to follow the “Safer At Home” health orders issued today to limit the community spread of COVID-19. While we are still technically “open,” the vast majority of services and buildings are closed to the public as we transition to a remote work and learning environment.

During this time, the only personnel, including faculty and staff, who are engaged in “essential functions” for the academic and business continuity of the District are required to come to their workplace using [social distancing guidelines](#). Faculty and staff are permitted to come to campus for the purpose of facilitating their transition to remote learning.

For now, these essential services are defined as follows:

- Accounts Payable
- College Incident Command Centers
- Custodial Services
- Emergency Operations Center
- Farm Staff at Los Angeles Pierce College
- Information Technology
- Legal
- Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department Community College Bureau personnel
- Maintenance & Operations
- Payroll
- Presidents & Executive Staff at the District and the Colleges
- Procurement & Contracts
- Receiving

We have shifted rapidly into a remote work and learning environment where there will be a minimum of essential functions with personnel on each campus and the District Office. Please check-in with your supervisor to make arrangements to recover any personal items or necessary materials at your office in order to work remotely.

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STAY INFORMED

We will continue to keep you informed through our website, www.laccd.edu/coronavirus, telephone, Zoom and emails. We are reviewing the health orders now for additional clarification, but the orders become effective by midnight.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the College Presidents and our Executive Team, thank you for your patience and professionalism as we navigate together through this fluid public health emergency. I am extremely proud of how we have risen to meet these unprecedented challenges.

Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Chancellor

The changes impact about 150,000 students, faculty and staff during the Spring 2020 Semester and could extend into the summer and fall sessions as well. The District's colleges include [Los Angeles City College](#), [East Los Angeles College](#), [Los Angeles Harbor College](#), [Los Angeles Mission College](#), [Los Angeles Pierce College](#), [Los Angeles Southwest College](#), [Los Angeles Trade-Technical College](#), [Los Angeles Valley College](#) and [West Los Angeles College](#).

All updated information will continue to be posted on the District's website: www.laccd.edu/coronavirus. All of the websites maintained by the colleges have links directing viewers to this same webpage for the same information.

The District's main social media platforms are also being used to push our District information and shared information from other official government and public health sources, including Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LACCD/> and Twitter: <https://twitter.com/laccd>. Regular email communication from the Chancellor and District Offices are being sent to faculty and staff and the colleges are using the same information to send to their students.

Other measures already in place for LACCD include the suspension of all non-essential travel by District and College executives and deans. The travel restrictions are currently under review for expansion to all LACCD personnel and students.

Statewide information for the California Community College is at: <https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Communications-and-Marketing/Novel-Coronavirus>

Prevention and Hygiene recommendations from LACDPH continues to be:

- If you are sick for any reason, stay home!
- If sick, self-monitor and call your primary healthcare provider for advice.
- Symptoms to watch for include a fever over 100.4 degrees; cough or shortness of breath
- Frequent and complete hand washing for at least 20 seconds
- Stay six feet or more from strangers and those who are ill
- Stop shaking hands with others to reduce the spread of germs
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Sneeze and cough into a tissue or your sleeve, safely throw away used tissues

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About the Los Angeles Community College District

We are the Colleges of Los Angeles! LACCD (www.laccd.edu) is the nation's largest community college district, educating about 250,000 students annually at its nine colleges that serve the residents of more than 36 cities and communities from 900 square miles of Los Angeles County. Since 1969, the District has been providing an important learning pathway for students seeking transfer to four-year colleges or universities while also offering two-year degrees and certificated training programs to Southern California's diverse workforce in many specialized trades and professions. Follow us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/LACCD>, @LACCD, and on Twitter, [@laccd](https://twitter.com/laccd) and Instagram, https://www.instagram.com/laccd_edu/ laccd_edu

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