



OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

TO: LACCD Board of Trustees
FROM: Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez
DATE: April 14, 2021
SUBJECT: Chancellor's Monthly Report April 2021

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The LACCD Chancellor's Monthly Report for April 2021 includes brief updates on the following:

- I. District Status on COVID-19 Public Health Emergency & Recovery
II. Update on the LACCD Enrollment and Marketing
III. Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges
IV. Special Notes & Updates
V. Communications

I. District Status on COVID-19 Public Health Emergency & Recovery

In March 2021, the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) and the nation marked the tragic, one-year milestone for the COVID-19 public health pandemic which has caused more than 563,000 deaths and 31.3 million coronavirus cases nationwide in just 12 months, and nearly 3 million deaths and 137 million cases globally, according to tracking data from Johns Hopkins University. To date, Los Angeles County has recorded about 1.22 million positive cases and more than 23,000 deaths.

During this time, LACCD has effectively used the District's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the colleges' Incident Command Centers (ICC) structure for emergency management response operations and adherence to stringent safety protocols that has enabled the District to never close or stop its mission of higher education and community service. The District has had a remarkable safety record, with only 538 positive cases and three deaths reported—nearly all of which occurred outside of District workplace operations.

Advanced recovery planning within the LACCD EOC-ICC response that began earlier this year has now allowed the District to move into the recovery and re-engagement phase of the emergency. The focus is on the safe return for increased in-person education and business operations now that Los Angeles County and the State of California are moving towards widespread re-opening on or about June 15, 2021, per Governor Newsom's announcement on April 6.

Los Angeles County currently remains in the "Orange Tier" classification under the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy plan, according to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH). Officials for LACDPH have told the District it is possible the county will move out of the state's Orange Tier and into the Yellow Tier sometime in May. Updates on the changing status of the pandemic and its impact on reopening protocols for the county's Institutes of Higher Education (IHE) have been consistently provided by LACDPH to LACCD and other colleges and universities through a series of detailed telebriefings and updated information online. The next such briefing is planned for April 15.

The Chancellor's [recent message](#) on March 26 about the pandemic's quickly changing conditions accurately reflected the health officials' current estimates and his message called for the District and the colleges to anticipate a Yellow Tier planning assumption for classes and other on-campus activities for the Fall 2021 Semester.

Under the current Orange Tier, the county's IHE are to remain in remote learning environments as much as possible, but in-person instruction can be conducted under safety protocols at no more than 25 percent capacity of the room's occupancy size limits. Specialized classrooms for small gatherings of art, design and theater arts students can occur while libraries can operate at 75 percent capacity, per LACDPH. Offering the return of limited, outdoor use only, for sports courts and fields for recreational and individual physical conditioning can resume as well.

Under the Yellow Tier, limitations are expected to increase to 50 percent capacity for activities that were at the lower Orange Tier levels and other campus-life activities such as food service and more athletics will be allowed to resume, provided safety protocols are followed.

According to Governor Newsom, California will fully open its economy on June 15 and the state will [move beyond the Blueprint](#) restrictions if two criteria are met:

- If vaccine supply is sufficient for Californians 16 years and older who wish to be inoculated; and
- If hospitalization rates are stable and low

The District's Re-Engagement Grid—first posted online in January—has been [updated and reissued online](#) to reflect these changing conditions and is subject to further revisions as needed. The Re-Engagement was not developed as a return to work order, but was developed to assist the colleges for their own unique planning circumstances. The EOC is also in the process of updating and consolidating the [Safety Advisories](#) to be aligned with the Re-Engagement Grid, as well as the changing conditions of the pandemic reflected by the county and the state [health orders](#).

All LACCD faculty and staff have been eligible for vaccinations for more than a month and all LACCD students who are 16 or older will be eligible for vaccination April 15. Nearly 5 million people have received at least one dose of [vaccine in Los Angeles County](#), out of about 8.5 million adult residents who are eligible. Nationwide, more than 192 million doses have been given, including 122 million people who have received at least one dose and more than 70 million who are fully vaccinated, [according to the Centers for Disease Control](#).

Locally, special assistance to LACCD faculty and staff have to receive vaccinations has occurred through the District's strong partnership with LACDPH and due to collaborative efforts by the colleges where Points of Distribution (POD) have been established. At Los Angeles Southwest College, for example, the POD operated there by the City of Los Angeles Fire Department has set aside up to 2,000 doses of first-shot vaccine during the month of April for LACCD personnel and their families. The POD operating at East Los Angeles College also set aside vaccines for college personnel and the LACDPH provided direct assistance for appointments to any District employee age 65 or older who needed a vaccine.

Hundreds of thousands of doses of Pfizer and Moderna vaccine are arriving each week in Los Angeles County and the District has been encouraging all employees to get vaccinated as quickly as possible. Employees are allowed to take up to two (2) days off to accommodate appointments if scheduled during working hours.

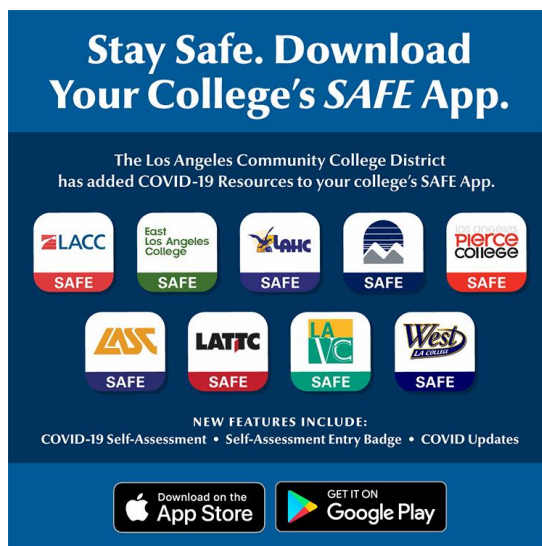
Financially, the District has been allocated, to date, \$368 million in federally approved COVID-related assistance, with about \$153 million dedicated to directly help students. The balance of funds is being for institutional operations, business continuity and fiscal stability, and in other ways consistent with the federal guidelines.

Specifically, the District has allocated direct assistance to students through its colleges and foundations in the form of:

- Direct aid to students
- Food gift cards
- Direct shipments of food
- Assistance with housing needs
- Technology hardware and software
- Textbooks and school learning supplies; and
- Internet connectivity, Wi-Fi hot spots and other help

While Health Officials remain cautiously optimistic that the COVID-19 pandemic could be nearing its end, rising case rates across the U.S. during the past few weeks are raising caution flags about relaxing restrictions and re-opening too soon. There was about an eight percent rise in new COVID-19 cases during the past week nationwide, the [fourth week in a row that cases rose](#), according to the Reuters News Agency.

The District, in cooperation with the LACDPH, continues to remind everyone that the basics of prevention and protection remain, including: staying home if sick, wearing facial coverings/masks outdoors, social distancing, frequent hand washing, avoiding large crowds or gatherings and [getting vaccinated](#) as soon as possible.



## II. Updates on LACCD Enrollment & Marketing

### Spring 2021 Enrollment

Comparing Spring 2021 (4/11/21) to Spring 2020 (4/12/20) as of **Day 62** of the semester, for the District as a whole:

- Headcount is at 89%,
- Duplicated Enrollment is at 84%
- Credit Section Count is at 89%
- Enrollment per Section is at 95%

The LACCD Re-Engagement Grid was updated effective April 8, 2021 to account for the less restrictive state and county guidelines to assist colleges in their class planning for a return to in-person classes based on local priorities and programs per the Colleges' leadership teams.

Fall 2021 priority registration is planned to begin May 24, 2021 and open enrollment is scheduled for June 18, 2021 for the Fall Semester.

Summer 2021 classes will be predominantly in remote learning platforms. Priority registration began April 12 and open enrollment begins May 10.

## III. Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges

Michael Fuller, LACCD Director for Institutional Advancement, shared the following update for the Foundation:

The Foundation, in partnership with LACCD Facilities Planning & Development Division, recently applied and has been awarded two grants from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. The first, for \$500,000, will support greenhouse gas reduction efforts at Los Angeles Harbor College. The second, for \$50,000, will support a Climate Corps Fellowship with the goal of engaging the college and its surrounding communities on energy and sustainability outreach education.

During the past 12 months of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Foundation has been instrumental in helping to distribute financial assistance to the District's students, many of whom are at or below the poverty line and who struggle with food and housing insecurity issues, unemployment and the need to support parents or other family members while going to college. The Foundation routinely receives thousands of notes of appreciation and thanks from students. Two recent examples include:

*"I wish that I could express in words just how grateful I am for this gift ...it feels like a lifeline, that my son and I are not all alone. It was a box of hope. My son (now 5) was born preterm. I have become a kindergarten teacher as well as a full-time student and I no longer have daycare. My education has been a gift and I want to give back in the form of helping others. I plan to find a career in social work with an emphasis on child welfare. (LACCD) is helping me to change my life and now they are helping me to get by. These groceries today will give us many nourishing meals and keep us out of the stores for a little while longer. And that, in a very grand way, is saving my son's life. I cannot and will not take COVID lightly."*

And

*"I am writing to thank you from the bottom of my heart. I am a 20-year-old first-generation Latino male. I currently live with my family (of 5) in a one-bedroom apartment in South Central. This kind gift will put me more at ease since I'll have more to eat and won't ever starve with such a generous amount donated to me."*

#### IV. Special Notes and Updates

##### Commencement & Graduation Announcements

Commencement ceremonies for each of the nine colleges will be hosted online via the colleges' social media platforms on June 8, 2021. The colleges are busy with organizing special videos and other recognitions for students. More details will be announced soon.

Be sure to mark your calendars for Black Graduation, May 25 and Lavender Graduation for May 17. Both events will also be hosted online.

The Los Angeles Community College District's African American Outreach Initiative Program Presents

## 2021 Virtual Black Graduation Celebration

**A Cultural Ceremony Honoring Students!**  
CITY • EAST • HARBOR • MISSION • PIERCE • SOUTHWEST • TRADE-TECH • VALLEY • WEST

**SAVE THE DATE** **TUESDAY MAY 25, 2021** **3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

For more info, contact 2021 Black Graduation Celebration Co-Chairs:  
Dr. Elliott Coney  
A&O Co-Chair, Legrand: Legrand Committee Los Angeles Valley College | Coney@laccod.edu  
Ms. Nicolò Flores  
A&O Co-Chair, Legrand: Legrand Committee Los Angeles Trade Technical College | Flores@laccod.edu

Graduating LACCD students are encouraged to pre-register for the celebration  
Pre-register today for the Virtual Black Graduation Celebration  
LACCD faculty, staff, and administrators are all invited to celebrate student achievement

\*LACCD encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation, or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact Debra Vellin at Vellin@laccod.edu as soon as possible, but no later than seven (7) business days prior to the event.

**Save THE Date!**

The Los Angeles Community College District

# Lavender Graduation Celebration

**May 17, 2021 • 4:00 p.m.**

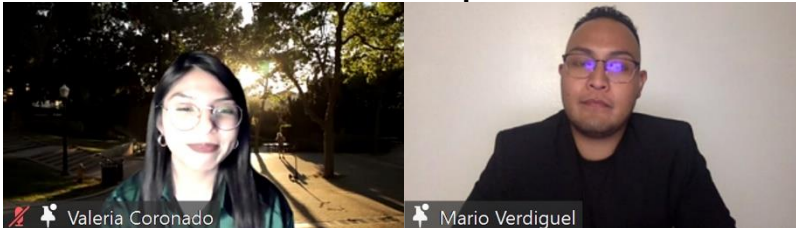
Celebrating our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual (LGBTQIA+) student graduates!

**More Information to Follow!**

LACCD encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation, or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact Deborah Harrington at harrind@laccod.edu as soon as possible, but no later than seven (7) business days prior to the event.

**LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**  
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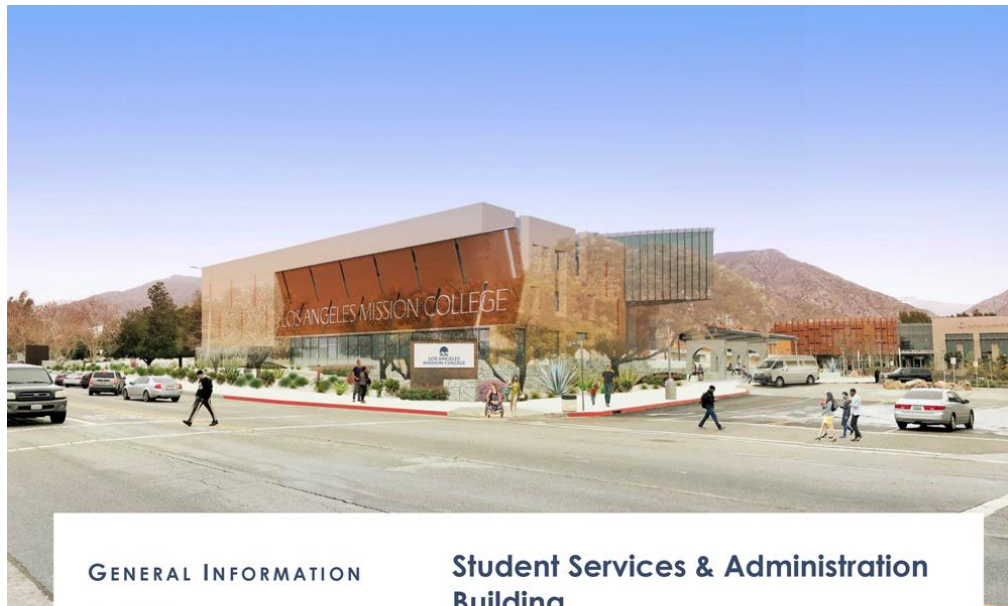
#### Law Pathway Student Scholarship Winners



[California Law Pathways](#) students Valeria Coronado, East Los Angeles College, and Mario Verdiguél, Los Angeles Mission College, were the recipients of the Ruthe Ashley Scholarship awarded at the 2021 Sixth Annual Pathway (Virtual) Summit sponsored by California Law Pathways organization February 17-19, 2021. More than 300 people, including community colleges students interested in law and becoming attorneys, attended

the summit featuring legal practitioners and educators speaking on issues facing the legal profession. The theme for this year's Law Summit was "Tackling Civil Rights and Racial Injustice in a Pandemic." The students received \$1,000 scholarships to help with their law education, according to, Sylvia Macias, an attorney, California Law Pathways board member and Assistant Professor of Law at Los Angeles Mission College.

**Groundbreaking for L.A. Mission College Student Services & Administration Building**  
 District and College officials are expected to gather with community leaders and others for a special groundbreaking, "turning of the dirt" ceremony for the new \$40 million, three-story building on April 15. Event coverage will be included in the next Chancellor's Monthly. Project Fact Sheet information below:



**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Architect:**  
**QDG**  
**General Contractor:**  
**Charles Pankow, Ltd.**  
**Program Management:**  
**Jacobs**  
**Anticipated Completion:**  
**January 2023**  
**Construction Budget:**  
**\$40 million**  
**Funding:**  
**Measure CC**

**Media Contact:**  
 Maricela Gomez  
 Communications Manager  
 BuildLACCD  
 (323) 981-7253  
 maricela.gomez@build-laccd.org

**Student Services & Administration Building**

The new three-story Student Services Center & Administration Building (SSAB) will create a centralized location for student-focused services essential to student success. Sited along Eldridge Avenue, the building will be a gateway onto campus, and symbolically, the student's academic journey.

The new building will consolidate fourteen departments currently housed throughout the campus into one location. The first floor will house critical services, inclusive of Admissions & Records, Financial Aid and Student Success offices. An additional six student serving departments will be located on the second floor.

The 59,000 square foot building will include the latest in safety and technology standards intended to provide an excellent student and staff experience. Sustainable attributes include drought tolerant landscaping and heat reducing features including a green roof, polished concrete floors and 66 kWh of solar panels. The building is slated to achieve LEED Gold Certification.

The building is contiguous to the numerous campus pedestrian walkways and includes a pedestrian pathway running from the sidewalk on Eldridge Avenue to the north end of the project site.

Throughout its 30-year history, Mission College has been committed to the success of its 12,000 students. Located in Sylmar, the campus proudly serves the communities of San Fernando, Pacoima, Mission Hills, North Hills, Panorama City and Granada Hills.



Mission College, 13356 Eldridge Ave, Sylmar, CA 91342



**LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**  
 CITY / EAST / HARBOR / MISSION / PIERCE / SOUTHWEST / TRADE-TECHNICAL / VALLEY / WEST





### **Utility Scholarships for Black Students Announced at Los Angeles Trade-Technical College**

In an effort to increase Black representation in its workforce and the tech industry beyond it, Edison International (EI), a Los Angeles County-based utility company, has developed a four-year, \$1 million program to provide scholarships of up to \$25,000 to eligible students. The scholarship program initially focuses on Black men and women in California, but military veterans are also encouraged to apply, according to the company.

The annual scholarship will include tuition and targeted support services while students are enrolled at Los Angeles Trade-Technical College for the Powerline Mechanic Certificate and Class A license programs. Eligible applicants must enroll at Los Angeles Trade-Technical College for the Fall 2021 semester, enroll in the Powerline Mechanic Certificate program, and have a high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) equivalent. Applicants must be eligible to work in the United States, possess a valid driver's license, and be eligible to obtain a Class A license.

**Applications must be submitted by May 17.**

<https://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/edisoninternationallineworkersscholarship/>

### **Los Angeles Galaxy Soccer Team, District Officials Team Up With L.A. Harbor College for Student Food Distribution Event**

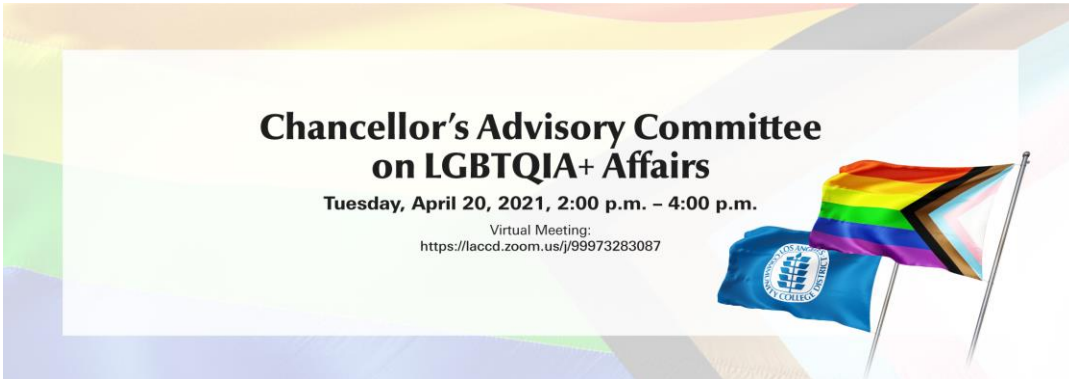


In collaboration with Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges, Northgate Markets, L.A. Harbor College and the L.A. Harbor College Foundation, the L.A. Galaxy team helped distribute food and gift cards to hundreds of students in need at Harbor College on Monday, March 29. Board of Trustee members also participated in the Spring Student Food Distribution event.






## Next Round of Special Committee Meetings



**Chancellor's Advisory Committee  
on LGBTQIA+ Affairs**  
Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting:  
<https://laccd.zoom.us/j/99973283087>



**Chancellor's Advisory Committee  
on Black/African American  
Student Affairs**

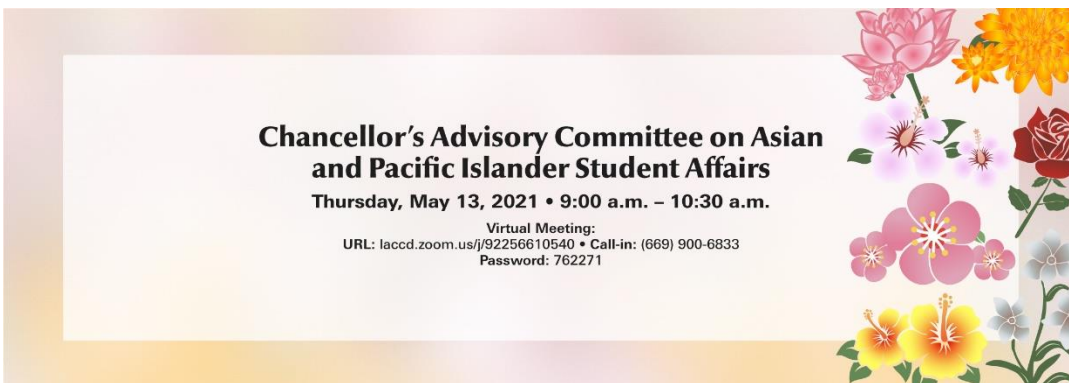
April 29, 2021  
7:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

May 27, 2021  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

June 24, 2021  
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.


**Virtual Meeting:**  
<https://laccd.zoom.us/j/93336966377>

**Dial-in:**  
Phone: (669) 900-6833, ID: 93336966377



**Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Asian  
and Pacific Islander Student Affairs**  
Thursday, May 13, 2021 • 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Virtual Meeting:  
URL: [laccd.zoom.us/j/92256610540](https://laccd.zoom.us/j/92256610540) • Call-in: (669) 900-6833  
Password: 762271



## V. Communications

### Education Matters, Advocacy Newsletter, April 2021 edition



Online now at: [http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/LACCD-APR2021-LACCD\\_Advocacy\\_Newsletter.pdf](http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/LACCD-APR2021-LACCD_Advocacy_Newsletter.pdf)

### News Releases

#### East Los Angeles College's South Gate Campus Earns Elevated Status

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/South%20Gate%20Learning%20Center%20Status%20Elevated%20by%20State%20032921.pdf>

#### Pierce College Professor Awarded Prestigious "Hayward Award"

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/20210325%20LAPC%20Professor%20Hayward%20Award%20Press%20Release%20-%20Screen.pdf>

#### LACCD Stands With AAPI Community

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/LACCD%20Stands%20With%20Its%20Asian-Pacific%20Islander%20Community%20in%20Wake%20of%20Atlanta%20Shooting%20FINAL%20031921.pdf>

#### Board Approves Reso on Equal Pay

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/LACCD%20Board%20Approves%20Resolution%20Regarding%20Equal%20Pay.pdf>

### Media Coverage Selected Highlights

#### LATTC Culinary Student Featured in *LA Weekly*

<https://www.laweekly.com/chef-spotlight-kayla-greer-is-acing-it-at-40-love/>

#### L.A. Harbor Food Distribution Event With L.A. Galaxy

[https://www.csrwire.com/press\\_releases/720516-la-galaxy-support-la-harbor-community-college-spring-food-distribution](https://www.csrwire.com/press_releases/720516-la-galaxy-support-la-harbor-community-college-spring-food-distribution)

#### LATTC – Edison Scholarship Announced

<https://www.postnewsgroup.com/utility-company-recruits-black-californians-for-tech-scholarships-jobs/>

<https://lasentinel.net/power-co-edison-is-recruiting-black-californians-for-tech-scholarships-jobs.html>

**Hemp Conference Features Couture By LATTC Students**

[https://www.wfmz.com/news/pr\\_newswire/pr\\_newswire\\_health/noco-hemp-expo-brings-back-in-person-hemp-conference-to-denver/article\\_d2208f7d-fad1-559d-adf7-c434e191e173.html](https://www.wfmz.com/news/pr_newswire/pr_newswire_health/noco-hemp-expo-brings-back-in-person-hemp-conference-to-denver/article_d2208f7d-fad1-559d-adf7-c434e191e173.html)

**Flags at Half Staff**

<https://patch.com/california/culvercity/community-college-district-offers-support-aapi-flags-half-staff>

**Enrollment Issues at California's Community Colleges**

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-04-12/california-community-college-enrollment-plummets-amid-covid>

<https://edsource.org/2021/californias-community-colleges-at-critical-crossroads-as-more-students-opt-not-to-attend/652637>

<https://edsource.org/2021/enrollment-at-californias-community-colleges-declined-more-last-fall-than-previously-estimated/651683>

<https://edsource.org/2021/map-most-california-community-colleges-saw-drops-in-enrollment/652388>

<https://edsource.org/2021/database-californias-community-colleges-enrollment-changes/652332>