



OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

TO: LACCD Board of Trustees
FROM: Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.
DATE: January 12, 2022
SUBJECT: Chancellor’s Monthly Report January 2022

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Happy New Year 2022!

The LACCD Chancellor’s Monthly Report for January 2022 includes brief updates on the following:

- I. Status on COVID-19 Public Health Emergency & District Recovery**
- II. Update on the LACCD Enrollment and Marketing**
- III. Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges**
- IV. Special News, Events and Announcements**

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

Overview

The New Year for 2022 was celebrated against the backdrop of the ongoing worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, marking the 22nd month since it was declared a public health emergency in March 2020. Our nation entered 2022 in the grips of yet another surge of the disease, this time caused by the highly contagious Omicron variant.

During the first 10 days of January, Los Angeles County recorded its highest numbers ever of daily new cases for the disease, with rates exceeding more than 43,000 new positive cases in just a single day.

Local positive testing rates have exceeded more than 21 percent—meaning more than 1 in 5 of people who test in the county are sick. Hospitalization rates have already exceeded 3,000 beds occupied due to the disease, which has raised significant red flag warnings for health officials due to the burden on the region’s healthcare system and emergency rooms. Absenteeism rates in many sectors of the workplace economy have occurred due to the surge, including within the critical first-responder ranks of police, fire, paramedics and healthcare, which prompted California Governor Newsom to activate several hundred National Guard medical teams for much-needed assistance throughout the state.

According to tracking data on the [Johns Hopkins University COVID-19 website](#), the U.S. has recorded more than 12 million new cases and 40,000 deaths **during just the past month**, for a total of about 62.34 million cases, plus about 843,000 total deaths since the pandemic began. Worldwide totals are about 314 million cases and more than 5.5 million deaths, including more than 42 million new cases and 182,000 deaths during the past month.

Los Angeles County remains a significant hot zone for the nation, according to national and local data. Both Johns Hopkins and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

(LACDPH) confirm that our county has now exceeded more than 2 million recorded positive cases of COVID-19 and almost 28,000 deaths. Since the new year began, daily cases locally have spiked significantly, first exceeding 21,000 new cases on January 4, and then doubling that amount to more than 43,500 cases just three days later on January 7. Since then, [daily case totals](#) announced by LACDPH have fluctuated between about 34,000 to 43,000 new cases per day. County health officials are estimating the current surge likely will peak in late January and begin to subside in February and March.

Perhaps the “silver lining” of the Omicron surge is that it appears to have overtaken Delta as the dominant variant. In general, the short-term illness caused by the Omicron variant appears to be less severe than either the original coronavirus or the Delta variant—but primarily only for those people who are up to date with their vaccinations with their initial one- or two-shot vaccine and a booster. Nearly all people who are hospitalized due to Omicron, like Delta, are those who are not unvaccinated or not current on their vaccination status. The long-term and/or lingering health effects of the disease continue to be noted in severe cases involving both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.

County health officials remain firm in urging all eligible people to be current on their vaccinations, which is now defined as getting boosters when eligible. In addition, frequent testing for everyone, regardless of vaccination status, is recommended.

New local health orders continue to change due to the Omicron surge, including new masking mandates; testing requirements, and quarantine or isolation procedures as well as thresholds for mega indoor or outdoor events. [Updated Health Orders are online](#) along with updates that the District follows under the county’s [Institutes of Higher Education COVID-19 toolkit](#) including IHE [Requirements and Best Practices](#) and the [IHE Exposure Management Plan](#).

In the workplace, the popular cloth masks are no longer allowed—except when used as a second outer layer, or what is referred to as “double masking.” Only the disposable, surgical-grade masks or the “N” series of respirators are allowed for use indoors. Testing requirements are also being expanded by health officials.

Frequent handwashing; indoor and/or outdoor masking; vaccinations/boosters; avoiding crowds (indoors and outdoors), sensible social distancing and staying home when sick for whatever reason, are all considered best practices to avoid illness, according to county health officials.

District Status

The District’s Winter Session runs January 4 to February 6, 2022 and includes a mix of online/remote, hybrid and in-person classes. Unlike other colleges or universities in the surrounding region, the District was already well-positioned with its instructional and operational plans for the Winter Session so that public announcements about delays or shifts to remote environments due to the Omicron surge were not needed.

About 88 percent of the instruction previously scheduled for the Winter Session was in online/remote platforms with the rest being a combination of hybrid or on campus. Since the surge began, some additional classes, per college, have been shifted to online/remote. Student services and business operations also continue to be a combination of in person or online, with the administrations at each college making adjustments on workplace scenarios in response to the disease, employees’ health status and other factors.

In December, the Command Team for the District's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) upgraded the alert level for both the EOC and the colleges' Incident Command Centers (ICCs) back into weekly active status for response activities.

Before the year-end winter break, the EOC-ICCs ensured:

- Staffing and weekly schedules for EOC-ICCs were re-established even during the break
- All colleges and the District had as much as a six-month supply of approved masking, hand sanitizer and other emergency supplies for the pandemic for employees and students
- Double the testing capacity available for free at all colleges and the District office for all employees and students
- Verified the colleges were prepared with additional contingency plans as needed
- Continued to meet and work with County health officials, the colleges and other outside healthcare providers for additional vaccination and testing clinics available to the surrounding communities served by the colleges
- Prepare and distribute numerous messages to all employees and students to help keep them information of the changing conditions



For LACCD, significant improvements continue in terms of compliance by both employees and students regarding [Board Policy 2900](#) for vaccinations, exemptions and testing. The District's Human Resources Division reports compliance for employees is now at about 95 percent, with only about 450 employees who are being notified via follow-up compliance notices as part of the District's progressive discipline process.

In January, the District is also seeking authorization from the Board of Trustees to now include as part of the Board Policy 2900 the requirement, per definition from LACDPH, that being current on COVID-19 vaccinations include booster shots.

II. Updates on LACCD Enrollment & Marketing

Winter 2022 Enrollment Information appears on the following page as provided by the District's Office of Institutional Effectiveness. Additional information will be provided at the next IESS Committee meeting later this month.

Chancellor Rodriguez and the College Presidents will be meeting January 13-14 for their Winter Retreat on enrollment management plans.



LACCD Enrollment Update

WINTER 2022 TO WINTER 2021 COMPARISONS

DAY 2 - RELATIVE TO THE BEGINNING OF INSTRUCTION

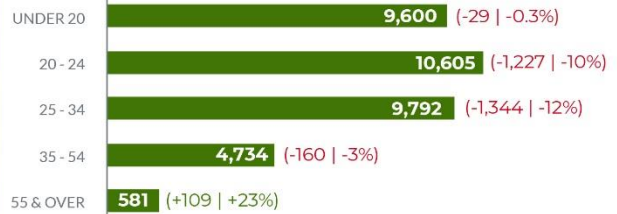
Relative Day Comparisons for Day 2, comparing Winter 2022 (Thursday, January 6, 2022) to Winter 2021 (Wednesday, January 6, 2021). Data source: LACCD PS Student Information System.



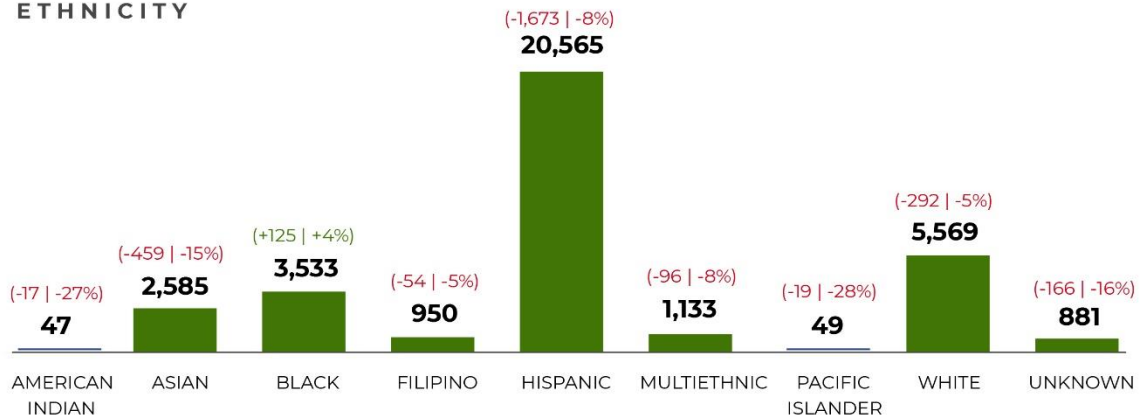
GENDER

	Winter 2022	Change from 2021
FEMALE	21,699	↓ -2,533 -11%
MALE	13,215	↓ -393 -3%
NON-BINARY	138	↑ +106 N/A
UNKNOWN	260	↑ +169 N/A

AGE



ETHNICITY



CLASS MODALITY & FILL RATE



SOURCE: LACCD Office of Institutional Effectiveness

III. Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges

The Foundation's districtwide vaccine efforts via the "Max the Vax" incentive campaign, funded by Kaiser Permanente, continues to provide up to \$150 cash incentives to students to get vaccinated. To date, more than 2,385 vaccine doses have been administered to students and community members to date. Additional incentive applications continue to be received daily. This important partnership with the generous support of Kaiser Permanente continues to save lives and prevent illness.

The Foundation also continues to process scholarships, grant awards, and donor reports for the 2021-22 academic year and its pursuit of new philanthropic contributions and developing initiatives that will support LACCD students in the 2021-22 academic year.

- The Foundation launched its districtwide "Umoja – African American Student Outreach Scholarship" to students participating in the colleges' Umoja programs and has awarded five students \$500 each. The next round of scholarships will be awarded in Spring 2022. For more information and to donate to the African American Student Success Fund – please visit <https://www.giveeffect.com/campaigns/17101-african-american-student-success-fund>
- The Foundation received \$30,000 from the Century Housing Corporation Century to create the "California Scholarship Fund." This scholarship supports a robust, enhanced pipeline into high-demand fields in Construction, Maintenance, and Utilities (CMU) at [Los Angeles Trade-Technical College](#). This scholarship program will provide direct financial support to increase students' enrollment and completion rates in CMU areas of study.
- The Foundation supports LACCD nursing students through our Persistence and NCLEX scholarships. These scholarships are designed to remove barriers for nursing students and help them complete their studies. To date, the Foundation has awarded 185 nursing students. We are still in the process of evaluating applications.

Earn and Learn!

We will pay you **\$100** for taking this in-person class!

Industry Overview & Career Opportunities (Class #26516) BSKSKL 073CE
Construction Maintenance and Utilities (CMU)
This is a tuition-free, non-credit class.

Where: Los Angeles Trade-Technical College
400 West Washington Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90015

When: March 8 – March 24, 2022
Tuesdays and Thursdays
2:00-5:00 p.m.

Additional \$250 Bonus
For students that enroll in two CMU classes either in Summer or Fall 2022!

Interested? Want to know next steps?
Email Sue Blumenfeld at blumens@lattc.edu

The Foundation is currently fundraising and accepting donations for:

- Food for Families program <https://www.giveeffect.com/campaigns/14483-food-for-families>
- African American Student Success Fund <https://www.giveeffect.com/campaigns/17101-african-american-student-success-fund>
- Undocumented Student Success Fund <https://www.giveeffect.com/campaigns/16055-undocumented-students-success-fund>

IV. Special News, Events and Other Announcements

Groundbreaking Event December 17, 2021 at Los Angeles Southwest College (LASC)

Members of the Board of Trustees, together with the Chancellor, college officials and project managers gathered for the groundbreaking celebration marking the much-anticipated construction of the new, two-story, 31,000-square-foot Student Union building at [LASC](#). District officials gathered for the official “turning of the dirt” ceremony, below.



Upcoming Meetings

The 7th Annual LACCD Disability Summit Sponsored by the Chancellor’s Office

Keynote speakers will be sharing strategies for institutions of higher education to ensure they are providing an inclusive and equitable environment for students and employees with disabilities.

- **REGISTRATION STARTS:** 8:30 a.m., Friday, **January 21, 2022**
- **LOCATION:** [Los Angeles Mission College](#) and Online

Contact Adrian Gonzalez, (818) 833-3313, or by email to gonzala@lamission.edu for pre-registration information and other details.



Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on LGBTQIA+ Affairs Tuesday, January 25, 2022

2 – 4 p.m.

Virtual Meeting:

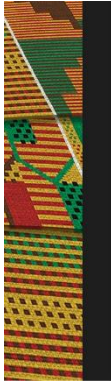
<https://laccd.zoom.us/j/92409699396>

Chancellor’s Districtwide Enrollment Town Hall

Enrollment Town Hall

FEBRUARY 1, 2022, 12-1:30 P.M.

Join Chancellor Rodriguez, Ph.D. and the College Presidents for the latest Enrollment Town Hall for updates plus timely, strategic conversation on increasing student enrollments at the nine LACCD colleges. Zoom details to be announced by districtwide email soon.



All Are Welcome!

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

**Thursday, February 3, 2022
2-4 p.m.**

Virtual Meeting:
<https://laccd.zoom.us/j/93771153124>

Dial-in:
Phone: (669) 900-6833, ID: 93771153124



Black History Month February 2022

The colleges are busy making final preparations for a variety of events and activities celebrating Black History Month 2022, including this "Virtual Read-In" event February 11, 2022 from [Los Angeles Harbor College](#). More details will be announced about events in the February Chancellor's Monthly.

**VIRTUAL
AFRICAN
AMERICAN
READ-IN**

**Friday,
February 11th,
10 - 11 am**

Join us as we read and discuss texts by African America authors and provide space to recognize and amplify their work. Original poems and spoken word are also welcome.

RSVP: bit.ly/READIN2022

Questions? Contact the LAHC Umoja Community at (310) 233-4348 or umoja@lahc.edu. For more information about the National African American Read-in, visit: <https://ncte.org/get-involved/african-american-read-in>

Special Events

“Southwest Daze” Set January 22 at LASC

Los Angeles Southwest College will hold its next Southwest Daze event, the college's in-person enrollment and orientation day, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, January 22, on campus. This fun-filled day will include music, food, and plenty of entertainment. Our dedicated support team will share all the steps to become a student and the many benefits of attending LASC, including our tuition-free Promise program. Learn more at www.lasc.edu/daze

Holiday Cheer at L.A. Harbor College

The Holidays came a little early last month at Harbor College thanks to community neighbor Northgate Markets who generously provided 10,000 toys for student families and the surrounding Wilmington community.

Harbor College and Northgate Markets turned a parking lot at the college into a local branch of the “North Pole” so student families registered with the college’s Maslow Basic Needs Center could safely drive through to receive much-needed food, toys and to see Ol’ Santa himself!



The college’s Culinary Arts program also distributed pound cakes as families exited the distribution drive-thru. In addition, employees from Phillips 66 also volunteered as “elves” to help deliver toys and food to carloads of families..

