



OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

TO: LACCD Board of Trustees
FROM: Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez
DATE: May 5, 2021
SUBJECT: Chancellor's Monthly Report May 2021

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The LACCD Chancellor's Monthly Report for May 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

The light at the end of the long COVID-19 pandemic tunnel is turning yellow as California and Los Angeles County health officials have determined the county is eligible to move into the Yellow Tier under the State's color-coded Blueprint for a Safer Economy re-opening plan.

Officials from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) announced earlier this week they will issue revised Health Orders on May 5 reflecting changes with fewer restrictions for the public and the economy effective Thursday, May 6, 2021. Additional updates by the county for its reopening protocols specific for Institutes of Higher Education are also expected. The move into the state's Yellow Tier, the last and least restrictive, comes after a steady decline during the past few months in positive case numbers, reduced daily death totals, lower hospitalization rates and a continued uptick in vaccination levels by county residents.

In a little more than one month from now, the previously announced plans by California Governor Newsom to declare the state open and to move beyond the Blueprint remain on track to occur June 15. The June 15 milestone will come almost 15 months after officials at the federal, state and local levels declared the COVID-19 pandemic emergency in March 2020.

County officials have told the District it is uncertain, however, when exactly emergency declarations will be rescinded due to considerations involving the eligibility and distribution timelines for emergency financial aid and other logistical assistance. Even after the June 15 reopening, state and local officials say they will continue to recommend health and safety protocols for facial coverings and other social distancing practices under some circumstances.

Health officials and medical professionals also continue to urge everyone who has not been vaccinated to get the vaccine as soon as possible. As of April 30 (most current data available), more than 8 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to people across Los Angeles County via 739 active vaccination sites, including about 4.98 million first doses and more than 3 million second doses. While significant progress is being made in getting people vaccinated, these numbers show that less than 40 percent of the county's 8.3 million people

eligible to be vaccinated are fully vaccinated. The local numbers are trending behind [statewide data](#), which shows about 41 percent of the state’s population, or about 13 million people, are fully vaccinated. Nationally, the [numbers](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show almost 248 million doses have been administered, but only about 32 percent of the country’s population, or 106 million, are fully vaccinated.

Everyone age 16 and older is eligible to be vaccinated. Appointments can be made directly through the LACDPH [website](#) as well as the state’s [“MyTurn” website](#). Some sites no longer require appointments.

While it is clear that Los Angeles County—along with most of California and other parts of the nation—is finally getting the upper hand in the battle against COVID-19, the fight has extracted a heavy human toll in addition to widespread economic hardships. [As of May 4](#), 1,234,202 positive cases of COVID-19 and 23,930 deaths have been recorded in Los Angeles County since the pandemic began.

The District continues to maintain a remarkable safety record. Only three new cases have been recorded during the past month, now at 541 cases versus last month’s accumulative total of 538 positive cases. Only three deaths associated with either personnel or students have been recorded since the pandemic began. Nearly all of the cases occurred outside of District workplace operations, but are recorded as part of the reporting requirements to the LACDPH.

In the U.S., there have been 32.5 million cases and almost 578,000 deaths, according to [Johns Hopkins University](#). Globally, there has been almost 155 million positive cases of COVID-19 and 3.2 million deaths. Many countries, including India and Brazil, are struggling under difficult massive outbreak conditions and there are concerns that new variants of COVID-19 can pose a threat if not enough people get vaccinated to achieve the 80-percent vaccination rate for the so-called “herd immunity” level.

### **District Re-Engagement**

The District remains actively focused on the safe return of increased in-person education and business operations at all nine colleges and District facilities. The colleges continue to move forward with re-engagement plans unique to each campus with the goal of having as much as 50 percent of all operations in person for the Fall 2021 semester, which begins August 30. The District’s updated [Re-Engagement Grid](#) continues to be used as the planning guide for the colleges.

The phased approach will help ensure all required safety protocols are maintained while providing for an increase with in-person education, student services, bookstore and food service operations, special events and athletics.

The District’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) remains active but on a newly reduced meeting schedule of twice weekly. The EOC is currently revising the District [Safety Advisories](#) to reflect the changing conditions and is assisting the colleges with increased requests for use of college facilities by outside groups for special events, athletics and other community activities. The EOC is also working to ensure all emergency documentation and required reports are completed.

Active vaccination and/or testing sites continue at City, East, Mission, Pierce and Southwest colleges to serve surrounding communities and District personnel. All of the colleges remain active in providing distribution events of food and other supplies to students. All nine colleges have online graduation events planned for Tuesday, June 8, 2021.

The Office of General Counsel is currently reviewing issues and other information statewide and nationally concerning possible requirements for vaccinations by both personnel and students in connection to a more widespread return to in-person activities.

As part of other changes for increased in-person activity, new check-in protocols have been established for the colleges and District facilities. Beginning May 3, all staff, students and visitors are required to use a self-check form accessible by smartphones or tablets, or by completing the [form online via the district website](#). Everyone who goes on campus or to District facilities must complete the form every time.

The goal is to start with existing personnel and students who are already scheduled to come to the colleges for the limited in-person education and activities during the remainder of the current Spring Semester and for the upcoming Summer Session. The single check-in stations and paper records at each site will be discontinued to prevent bottlenecks with the anticipated increase for the Fall Semester. The new check-in process is being done per state law for workplace safety that requires contact tracing information be provided to health officials for three years, through December 2023, in the event of new outbreaks of COVID-19.

A full suite of infographics and suggested communications has been provided to the colleges in keeping with the District's established "Stay Safe" campaign to help inform their campus communities.





## II. Updates on LACCD Enrollment & Marketing

### Enrollment

Priority and tiered registration for the Summer Session 2021 started on April 12 and open enrollment for all is scheduled to begin May 10, 2021. The Summer Session begins June 14, 2021.

Fall Semester 2021 priority and tiered registration is planned to begin May 24, leading to open enrollment for all on June 18, 2021. The Fall Semester begins August 30, 2021.

Preliminary updated enrollment numbers will be available beginning next month.

### Marketing

Districtwide enrollment campaigns in support of these efforts will begin during the week of May 17, with a month-long effort for the Summer Session, through June 18, followed by the Fall Semester effort for about 2½ months through the first week of classes.

The external audience emphasis is on students and potential students ages 18 to 35, and their parents, in the Spanish-language markets for media collateral, in addition to similar targeted audiences for the region's African American and Asian and Pacific Islander communities. Internal audiences include outreach to Winter Session students, students who have applied but not enrolled, dual enrollment, ESL students, and students who have applied for financial aid, but not enrolled.

A combination of traditional broadcast and print; plus social media platforms—including expansion into TikTok and Spotify—along with multiple nudging emails, Google and other search engine optimization (SEO) and online advertising will be used to benefit the colleges and support their individual efforts.

## III. Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges

Michael Fuller, LACCD Director for Institutional Advancement, shared that the Foundation is devoting time to processing scholarships and grant awards for the end of the 2020-2021 Academic Year and will begin work soon for the upcoming 2021-2022 term.

The Foundation staff is completing donor reports in addition to grant writing and soliciting new contributions.

#### IV. Special Notes and Updates

##### Commencement & Graduation Announcements

Virtual graduation ceremonies for each of the nine colleges will be hosted online via the colleges' social media platforms on June 8, 2021. More information will be posted per college on their websites.

Be sure to mark your calendars for Black Graduation on May 25 and Lavender Graduation on May 17. Both events will 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 Celebrations Co-Chairs:  
Dr. Elliott Conroy  
AAMI Co-Chair, Signature Events Committee Los Angeles Valley College | Conroy@laccod.edu  
Ms. Nicole Flores  
AAMI Co-Chair, Signature Events 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 Betina Vallin at Vallin@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 harrined@laccod.edu as soon as possible, but no later than seven (7) business days prior to the event.

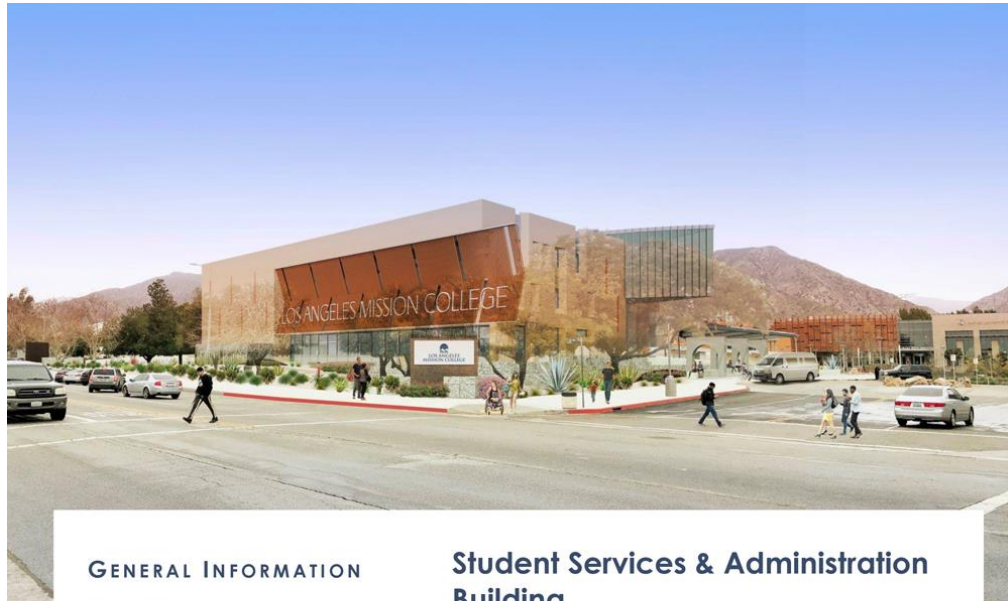
LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
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#### Groundbreaking for L.A. Mission College Student Services & Administration Building



District and College officials gathered April 15 for a special groundbreaking and the traditional “turning of the dirt” ceremony for the new \$40 million, three-story building. It was the first such in-person special event hosted at an LACCD college since the pandemic began. Board of Trustees President Steven Veres, Chancellor Rodriguez and Los Angeles Mission College President Monte Perez were keynote speakers for the District. Trustees Mike Fong and David Vela, Board 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, also participated. Additional event photos and the Project Fact Sheet follows.





**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:**  
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 Communications Manager  
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**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



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## LACCD General Counsel Jeffrey Prieto Nominated by White House to EPA Post



On April 28, 2021, the [White House announced](#) that President Biden had nominated Jeffrey Prieto, the District's General Counsel, as his selection to become the next General Counsel for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Mr. Prieto's prior federal government service spans 20 years for a variety of agencies and departments, including under the Obama-Biden Administration when he served as the Senate-confirmed General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

He was a White House Fellow assigned to the Secretary of Health and Human Services; an Attorney-Advisor at the EPA's Office of Water; a Trial Attorney, Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General, Deputy Executive Officer, and as General Counsel in the Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD).

He earned his bachelor's degree in history from the University of California, Santa Barbara; a J.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, and his Master's in Public Affairs and Urban and Regional Planning from Princeton University.

## New Community and Student Garden Opens at Los Angeles City College



A [grand opening](#) celebration for the new "City's Garden," a student-led project to help combat food insecurity among students and the surrounding community, was held at Los Angeles City College (LACC) on April 22, 2021.

The garden was a project that began in 2019 when LACC student members of the Re/Generation Garden Club first presented their community garden proposal to the college, community and civic leaders. Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) is providing initial funding as well as additional annual support for upkeep as part of the hospital's community impact work.





## Next Round of Special Committee Meetings



PLEASE JOIN US


### Chancellor's Advisory Committee for Mexican American, Central American and Latino Affairs

**Tuesday, May 11, 2021 • 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Virtual Meeting**  
<https://laccd.zoom.us/j/98345180240>

**Dial-In**  
(669) 900-6833, ID: 98345180240

Judith F. Baca, *Gente del Maíz*. © 2012 Judith F. Baca/Image courtesy of the SPARC Archives (SPARCinLA.org).



### 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



### DACA/Immigration Task Force Meeting

**2021 Meeting Dates:**  
February 18, March 18, April 15, May 20, and June 17  
Meetings start at 2:00 p.m.

**Zoom:** <https://laccd.zoom.us/j/93810124001>  
**Phone:** (669) 900-6833 ID: 938 1012 4001



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

**April 29, 2021**  
2:00 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

## V. Communications

### News Releases & Statements

#### Ethnic Studies Bill Advances

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/Ethnic%20Studies%20Bill%20for%20Community%20Colleges%20Advances%20040821%20final.pdf>

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/20210412%20AB%201040%20Press%20Release%20Spanish%20v1.pdf>

#### Chancellor's Statement on Chauvin Trial Verdict

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/20210421%20Chancellors%20Communication%20-%20Statement%20on%20Chauvin%20Trial%20Verdict%20v1.pdf>

#### Los Angeles City College Opens Community / Student Garden

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/LACC%20News%20Release%20-%20LACC%20Opens%20Community%20Garden%20-%20screen.pdf>

#### Chancellor Statement on Vaccines

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/20210423%20Chancellors%20Communication%20-%20Update%20on%20Mandated%20Vaccinations%20v1.pdf>

#### Board President Veres Statement on President Biden's American Families Plan

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/2021/Board%20President%20Veres%20Statement%20on%20Biden%20Free%20Community%20College%20Education%20Plan%20042821.pdf>

#### Media Coverage Selected Highlights

##### LACC Gardens Opening

<https://www.telemundo52.com/fotosyvideos/lacc-ofrece-un-jardiin-comunitario/2177725/>

##### LACC Enrollment Marketing Success

<https://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Education/2021/0406/Community-college-How-education-s-best-kept-secret-stays-afloat>

<https://laist.com/news/los-angeles-city-college-enrollment-community-colleges-retention-pandemic>

##### West L.A. College Celebrates Asian American Pacific Islander Month

<https://patch.com/california/culvercity/wlac-celebrate-asian-american-pacific-islander-heritage-month>

### **Mission College Groundbreaking**

<http://www4.spaces4learning.com/Articles/LACCD-Holds-Groundbreaking-for-40M-Student-Services-Building.aspx>

livestream link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VJ3npp3MiTU>

### **College Vaccination Operations**

<https://www.losfelizledger.com/pop-up-vaccination-clinic-at-l-a-city-college-and-other-locations-announced/>

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-05-03/covid-19-vaccine-is-now-available-in-l-a-county-without-appointments-what-you-need-to-know>

<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/east-la-college-to-offer-pfizer-vaccines-to-local-residents-without-appointments-monday/2570880/>

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-04-12/covid-vaccine-appointments-expand-chinatown-east-la>

<https://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2021/04/05/la-covid-vaccine-los-angeles-southwest-college/>

<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/coronavirus/southern-california-coronavirus/southern-california-clinics-offer-covid-19-johnson-johnson-vaccine/2566532/>

### **East L.A. College Basketball Player Signs with Texas-Tech**

<https://texastech.com/news/2021/4/15/mens-basketball-kj-allen-signs-to-play-at-texas-tech.aspx>

### **Update on Last Chance U**

<https://www.cinemablend.com/television/2565495/where-last-chance-u-basketballs-stars-are-now>

<https://www.ocregister.com/2021/03/09/alexander-east-l-a-college-shines-under-the-last-chance-u-spotlight/>

### **West L.A. College Coach Podcast on Black History**

<https://lasentinel.net/local-football-coach-hosts-a-podcast-about-black-history.html>

### **College Numbering for Courses**

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-04-30/colleges-try-to-devise-a-common-course-numbering-system>

## **Board President Veres Statement on American Families Plan**

<https://lasentinel.net/laccd-applauds-historic-nationwide-tuition-free-community-college-program-in-president-bidens-american-family-plan.html>

## **Feature on Electrical Line Worker from Trade-Tech**

[https://uk.style.yahoo.com/29-old-dangles-helicopters-supply-154108055.html?guccounter=1&guce\\_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xILmNvbS8&gucere\\_referrer\\_sig=AQAAABe1FXPJC8i41RzAA5IKMFTsafjZUiehamySv--IVld4hDO\\_Fn9IcWNLce47mho2k9IOosJ8wgbuzAkoVnLiUXF8y9ZbN5Fx\\_-do4XtxhHpnGZAaPZTrEQKsWzqZG-3-kYOF2hcYxy4jHfIHGzi5nglGWZpT-Zt\\_Khyx3UqclYfu](https://uk.style.yahoo.com/29-old-dangles-helicopters-supply-154108055.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xILmNvbS8&gucere_referrer_sig=AQAAABe1FXPJC8i41RzAA5IKMFTsafjZUiehamySv--IVld4hDO_Fn9IcWNLce47mho2k9IOosJ8wgbuzAkoVnLiUXF8y9ZbN5Fx_-do4XtxhHpnGZAaPZTrEQKsWzqZG-3-kYOF2hcYxy4jHfIHGzi5nglGWZpT-Zt_Khyx3UqclYfu)