



OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

TO: LACCD Board of Trustees
FROM: Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez
DATE: May 6, 2020
SUBJECT: Chancellor's Monthly Report May 2020

The LACCD Chancellor's Monthly Report for March 2020 includes brief updates on the following:

- I. District Status on COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
II. Status on Recovery Plans
III. Update on the LACCD Enrollment
IV. Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges
V. LACCD Communications

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I. District Status on COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

In March 2020, the world changed for the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD). The response to the COVID-19 public health emergency by all levels of government and public education, including LACCD, has been a rapidly unfolding situation that continues to change daily. Plans for recovery and adherence to California's multi-step process for relaxing health orders is now underway. Recovery information is noted below and contained in greater detail in the companion presentation; however, a brief summary of the situation and steps taken during the past two months follows here.

Faced with the unrelenting, deadly assault by the microscopic Novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) and the COVID-19 illness, the LACCD Board of Trustees on March 18, 2020 declared an emergency, authorizing Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D., to fully activate the District's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on March 19, 2020 for coordinating with the nine colleges the response to the global pandemic health emergency.

http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/Coronavirus%20Update%20to%20LACCD%20Community%20March%202018%20-%20Screen.pdf

The District's declaration was made in coordination with guidance and direction from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) as well as the State of Emergency declarations on March 4, 2020 by both the County of Los Angeles and the State of California, which were followed by the "Safer at Home" orders issued by the State and County effective March 19, 2020 and then extended locally by the County until May 15, 2020.

https://covid19.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/HOO_Safer-at-Home-Order-for-Control-of-COVID_04102020.pdf

All in-classroom instruction for the District was halted effective March 16-29, while an unprecedented effort occurred to shift everything possible to remote learning platforms by the end of the month. All business services and in-person student services began shifting to online.

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/Coronavirus%20Update%20to%20LACCD%20Community%20March%202015%20Final.pdf>

After approximately five days of in-person operations, the District EOC shifted to remote operations due to ongoing health concerns and exposure risks. The EOC, plus the colleges' Incident Command Centers, have been operational and coordinating for the past 48 days, March 18 to May 6, 2020— for many issues and challenges, including, among others:

- Track and respond to all self-reported exposures and positive cases of COVID-19 involving LACCD personnel and students
- Leverage mass ordering of, and inventory control for, Personal Protection Equipment and other supplies
- Develop closure protocols and security coordination with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Community College Bureau
- Identification of essential services and essential services personnel for in-person, on-campus purposes
- Produce districtwide emergency public information and communications
- Coordinate news media inquiries per ICS emergency protocols
- Establish deep-cleaning processes per college and District facilities
- Assist with large-scale faculty and staff training for Canvas, Zoom and ICS platforms
- Create new professional development opportunities for LACCD personnel in remote formats for business continuity
- Respond to technology challenges for remote learning and online business continuity, including network security and protocols for remote operations
- Distribute technology resources to faculty, staff and students
- Monitor, analyze and advocate regarding legislative actions at federal, state and local levels of government, including daily briefings by Gov. Newsom, Mayor Garcetti, health officials and other emergency response personnel
- Provide for the live, online broadcast of LACCD public meetings via Zoom with real-time closed captions and streaming on Facebook for ADA-compliance and transparency
- Track and coordinate emergency expenses; coordinate distribution of emergency government funding
- Provide procurement, contractual, business and legal services on emergency issues
- Coordinate with the BuildLACCD program, including security, temporary closures and COVID-19 cases
- Coordinate with the Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges and the colleges' foundations for assistance to students
- Facilitate logistics for the COVID-19 drive through testing at East Los Angeles College
- Coordinate outside requests for emergency PPE supplies and other services
- Continue coordination with the District's COVID-19 Response Team for briefings with faculty and other District stakeholders
- Coordination and development of internal ticketing system and forms for workflow control, public information, ICS documentation and recovery
- Provide coordination support for distribution of CARES funding to students

Approximately 95 percent of classes for the Spring 2020 semester resumed online beginning March 30.

[http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/Welcome%20Back%20Message%20news%20rel ease%20March%2029%20final%20-%20screen.pdf](http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/Welcome%20Back%20Message%20news%20release%20March%2029%20final%20-%20screen.pdf)

Welcome Back video messages by the Chancellor and Board of Trustees President Andra Hoffman helped greet the tens of thousands of students and faculty who participated in the new normal for remote learning.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZD9who_jXY&feature=youtu.be



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5cE8ybapdRc&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR1TLS3akQGu dubB-YAvQL96ShaJWFL9IL-0vuDzYkSSY9oF6yCG8VGht4>



In April, on-going health emergency prompted the District to issue a variety of Safety Advisories to help protect personnel, including

[Cloth Face Coverings](#)

[Access to Colleges](#) and District Facilities and

[Social Distancing Guidelines](#)

As the emergency response by the District and the colleges near the 60-day mark, it is likely that the EOC-ICC structure will continue in the short term, although modifications to schedules

are being done as the situation evolves. For example, most of the colleges' ICCs are now operating on two- or three-day schedules. The EOC has scaled back some of its daily and weekend meetings and additional personnel have been trained and brought into rotation schedules to allow the original staff some much-needed time away from EOC duties to catch up on other work responsibilities.

The Chancellor's Cabinet (the nine college presidents and district executive staff) which was meeting daily for two to three hours per day, also has scaled back the frequency and duration of its meetings.

While summer sessions classes will remain online, and the Chancellor announced on April 28 that the 2020 Fall Semester will see a [similar online schedule](#). The Chancellor, however, indicated the possibility remains that some Fall semester classes that require in-person instruction, such as lab classes or nursing instruction, could be conducted on a restricted, limited basis in the Fall with social distancing protocols per the County Health Department.

Currently, the District's advanced planning focus is now looking ahead to recovery plans in keeping with the State, the County and the City of Los Angeles guidelines while be mindful that the coronavirus has not gone away; there is no viable vaccine under mass production and significant, large-scale assistance from the federal and state governments will be needed for recovery.

In addition, a Districtwide Virtual Graduation Taskforce was established by the Chancellor in April to recommend options for how to recognize our graduating class of 2020 without a traditional commencement and cross-the-stage ceremony. Plans are moving forward with an event for each college using livestreaming on social media, pre-recorded speeches by District officials, student photos and special guests. A Save the Date announcement is set to go out this week.



II. Status of Recovery Plans

Recovery timelines are uncertain. A more detailed outline of recovery processes for LACCD is included in the companion PowerPoint document to be presented by the Chancellor at the Board of Trustees meeting on May 6.

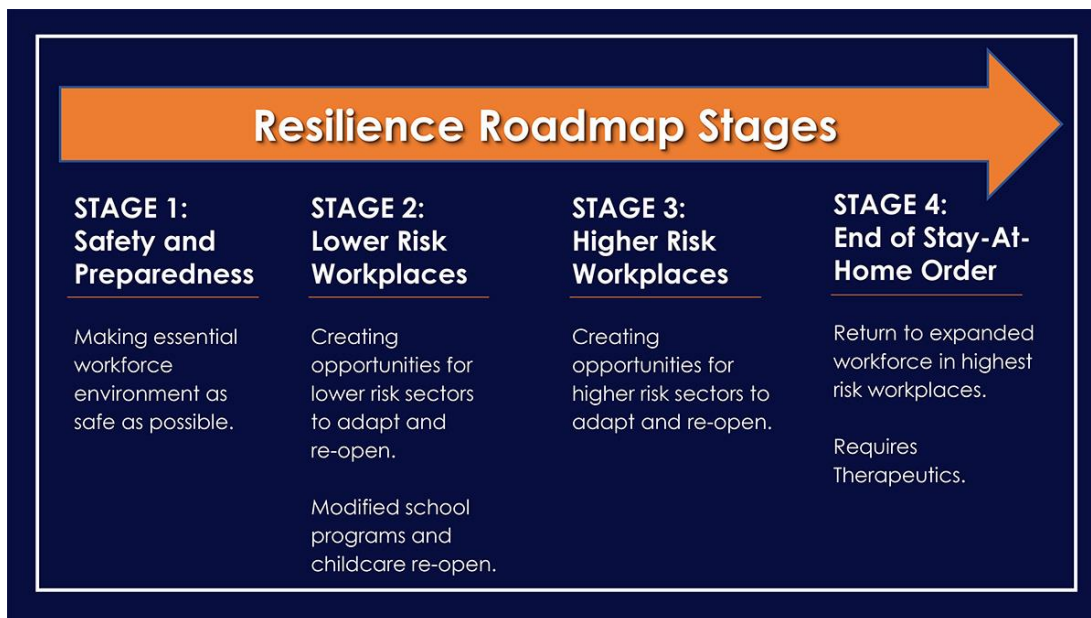
The importance of LACCD's participation to local—and even statewide—recovery plans is critical. Currently, Chancellor Rodriguez has been appointed to represent the District in three such planning efforts by the County of Los Angeles, the City of Los Angeles and the California Community College Chancellor's Office. Those meetings are currently underway.

A brief discussion on the general status for recovery by LACCD and others follows.

While Governor Newsom is now indicating that much of California is now heading into Stage 2, as early as this week, by May 7 or May 8, based on statewide data and trends, officials for both Los Angeles County and City of Los Angeles indicate overall recovery our area may lag behind the rest of the state and Los Angeles has been Ground Zero for the pandemic in California with the highest number of positive cases and deaths.

Governor Newsom also specifically as indicated the initial Stage 2 phase does not include schools “The announcement for Friday (May 8) does not include offices, seated dining at restaurants, shopping malls or schools,” according to a news release issued by May 4 by the Governor's Press Office.

On April 28, Governor Newsom unveiled plans for recovery in stages and indicators for modifying the Safer-at-Home orders. The governor continues daily briefings and sharing additional direction, including allowing beaches to re-open under strict social distancing guidelines; the opening of some retail business and other measures, based on data that shows many areas of California can begin the re-opening process.



6 Indicators for Modifying Stay-at-Home Order

- Ability to test, contact trace, isolate, and support the exposed
- Ability to protect those at high risk for COVID-19
- Surge capacity for hospital and health systems
- Therapeutic development to meet the demand
- Ability of businesses, schools, and childcare facilities to support physical distancing
- Determination of when to reinstitute measures like Stay-At-Home

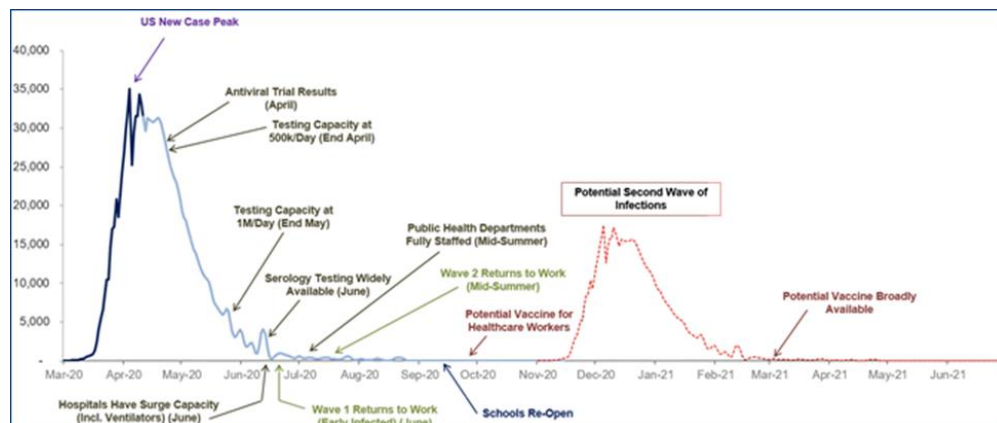
Both Governor Newsom and Los Angeles Mayor Garcetti have indicated “cautious optimism” for such reopenings, with the strong caveat that Safer-At-Home orders could be re-imposed if the public does not adhere to social distancing, cloth face coverings and/or if a spike in cases occurs.

As an example, as of May 5, 2020, the LACDPH has identified 27,815 positive cases of COVID-19 and 1,313 deaths. Those totals represent more than half of all positive cases in California, at about 55,000, and total deaths statewide at 2,250.

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Director Dr. Barbara Ferrer, however, told higher education officials on May 1 that the County will not renew the Safer at Home orders that expire May 15 “as is” but will include new guidelines and modified directives.

Large on-campus gatherings, large lectures, spectator sports, concerts or theatrical events are unlikely until the Spring Semester in 2021, according to Dr. Ferrer.

There are significant concerns amount health officials and emergency planners that a significant second wave of COVID-19 could strike the U.S. later this year, further hampering recovery efforts. The illustration below indicates a possible timeline scenario for a possible second wave.



III. Updates on LACCD Enrollment

Enrollment and SCFF Update

1. Spring 2020

- Credit FTES is tracking 99.8% of semester end total. K-12 enrollment, which is funded at a higher rates is tracking 3.8% higher.
- Non-credit enrollment utilizes Positive Attendance, which is not collected until the end of the semester. It is projected that Positive Attendance will be collected lower than previous year; however, the state is allowing colleges to use the average hours generated from past semesters, which should mitigate any potential losses.
- Second 8 week classes are tracking higher in enrollment than past semesters.
- As of week 11, there have been 86,214 drops, compared to 83,477 drops in the previous spring, a 3% increase over the previous year. The colleges have awarded 25,293 EWs, compared to 22,147 Ws by week 11 in 2019. It is expected that more EWs will come in throughout the semester and will be tracked regularly. EWs do not reduce FTES.

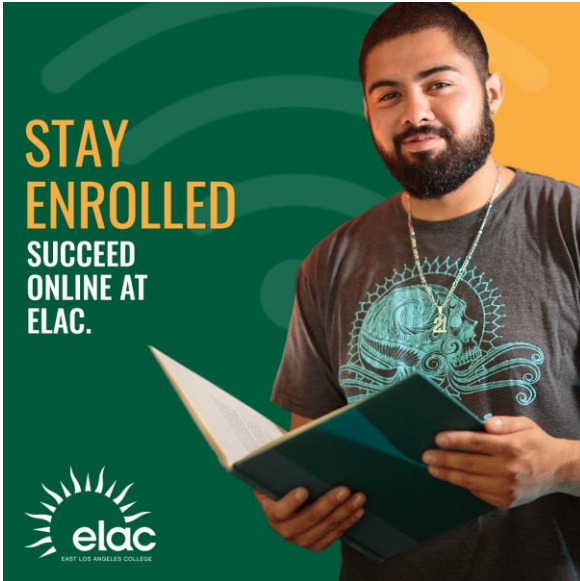
2. Summer and Fall 2020

- The colleges have planned an all-remote operation for summer, with no in-person classes. If public health allows for reinitiating courses in person, the colleges will reconvene the courses that were unable to complete in spring and add additional in-person courses for the summer.
- Summer priority enrollment begins May 4 and open enrollment begins May 18.
- Fall priority enrollment begins June 8 and open enrollment begins July 1.

In support of the Summer Session, the District's Communications Office and the Colleges are working on a comprehensive, districtwide outreach and marketing effort in two phases:

- Enrollment Outreach to existing students during priority registration timeframe in May using multiple student email blasts in conjunction with specialized landing pages per colleges and multi-platform social media messaging, geo-fencing, re-targeting and Google SEO
- Public-facing media buys, primarily broadcast TV and radio, from May 18-June 12, for all within the broadcast footprint when summer session registration opens to the general public

Some examples of the social media messaging branded to each college that will appear in students' feeds on Facebook and Instagram include (on next page):



IV. Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges

The area's philanthropic community has been assisting the Foundation to help provide for the emergency assistance needs of LACCD students during the COVID-19 crisis.

To date, 847 gifts totaling \$2,470,311 since the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1, 2019. The Foundation has awarded 17,057 grants, scholarships, grocery cards or refurbished laptops to students across all nine LACCD Colleges, including:

- Emergency Laptops 7,684
- Food Insecurity assistance 5,471
- Nursing 318
- Promise Emergency 174
- General Emergency 321
- Bridging the Digital Divide 3044
- Other 45



Our strategic partnership with Food 4 Less / Ralphs / Kroger was among the first donations received during the crisis, with \$150,000 from our valued corporate neighbors.

[http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/Kroger%20Companies%20Donate%20\\$150%20000%20for%20Student%20Food%20During%20COVID-19%20Emergency.pdf](http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/Kroger%20Companies%20Donate%20$150%20000%20for%20Student%20Food%20During%20COVID-19%20Emergency.pdf)

Steve Ballmer, owner of the Los Angeles Clippers, also is among the donors to the Foundation, providing \$100,000 for emergency assistance. Other major donors include:

- Simon Foundation, \$100,000
- Leonetti/O'Connell Foundation \$300,000 (Laptops and General Emergency, cumulative total)
- Kroger Foundation \$255,000 (Food Insecurity cumulative total)
- Lumina Foundation \$60,000 (Laptops)
- Ann and Robert Ronus Trust \$50,000 (General Emergency)
- City National Bank \$50,000 (General Emergency)
- California Emerging Technology Fund \$25,000 (Connectivity)
- Gilmore Associates \$5,000 (Tom and Jerri Perroni)
- Schnabel Foundation \$2,500 (MaYA Students Emergency)

Donations can be made using the following link:

<http://laccd.edu/About/foundation/Pages/default.aspx>

In addition to the District's Foundation, the foundations at the colleges have been active in raising funds and distributing to their college-specific students. For example, a recent acknowledgement from Los Angeles Harbor College showed (image left) and notice from LATTC:



http://www.ladowntownnews.com/community/lattc-board-donates-50k-for-students-in-need/article_20effa2e-8681-11ea-ad71-67b7e7e2b3e8.html

A more comprehensive list of donations and activities per college foundation will be compiled.

V. LACCD Communications

Emergency Public Information and crisis communications has been a critical component for the District and the colleges during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The Chancellor's communications directly to students –and to faculty and staff—have been paramount for organizational stability. Numerous messages emailed directly to the LACCD community have been completed, including, most recently, on April 28:

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/Chancellors%20Updated%20Message%20to%20LACCD%20Community.pdf>

Additional Chancellor messages included notices about graduation, updates about the Student Health Centers and status reports on the emergency. This is an additional example of the messages that have gone out about once a week since the emergency began:

<http://laccd.edu/Documents/NewsDocuments/Chancellor-Commencement-2020-Message.pdf>

The Chancellor also has engaged student leaders in weekly focus group chats for them, in turn, to share with their fellow students.

As a result of these communications, recent District survey of 9,370 students (the Spring 2020 Online Transition Survey) showed more than 85 percent of students surveyed, about 8,000, felt they were informed about the COVID-19 situation, while only about 5 percent said no.

Students have also taken to social media to express their gratitude to the District during this time, as evident by recent social media post of photo from the dental hygiene students at West Los Angeles College:



During March and April, the Communications Office, in conjunction with the LACCD EOC and the Colleges' ICCs, has produced and distributed 24 news releases, announcements, statements from the Chancellor, bilingual FAQs and other message—all of which are posted

online at www.laccd.edu with additional postings on the coronavirus pages, www.laccd.edu/coronavirus.

The Communications Office initially provided regular updates to the Board of Trustees and others during the initial phases of the emergency, including 14 updates during the first 30 days, March 7 to April 7. Subsequent public communication messages were shifted to weekly reports in better coordination with EOC workflow information. So far, three such weekly reports have been distributed, covering April 12-18; April 19-25 and April 26-May 2.

In addition, more than 300 organic messages and re-posts / shares of official crisis information and emergency health info have been made to the District's main FB, Twitter and Instagram platforms as well as the colleges' social media accounts.

In many instances, total audience reach on these accounts exceeds that total number of followers or likes, indicating greater widespread interest in the information provided beyond those who regularly look at the information.

Social Media videos produced by the District during the COVID-19 public health emergency:

ELAC testing drive-through

<https://www.facebook.com/1464553543843525/videos/848031969028772/>

LASC College meal distribution

<https://www.facebook.com/1464553543843525/videos/2598636643715051/>

ELAC laptop distribution

<https://www.facebook.com/1464553543843525/videos/664302891074408/>

(Spanish)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCHtbkYgN2Y&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR3Ap7zbKnwcA_aYzAiRjYhUaISSeLjkV6M6qt656HoLbzF6B_IHTuB8tds

Chancellor Rodriguez at District laptop distribution

<https://www.facebook.com/1464553543843525/videos/499547864268025/>

<https://www.facebook.com/1464553543843525/videos/1031162303945643/>

Public Meetings FB Livestream

District Standing Committee Meetings April 22

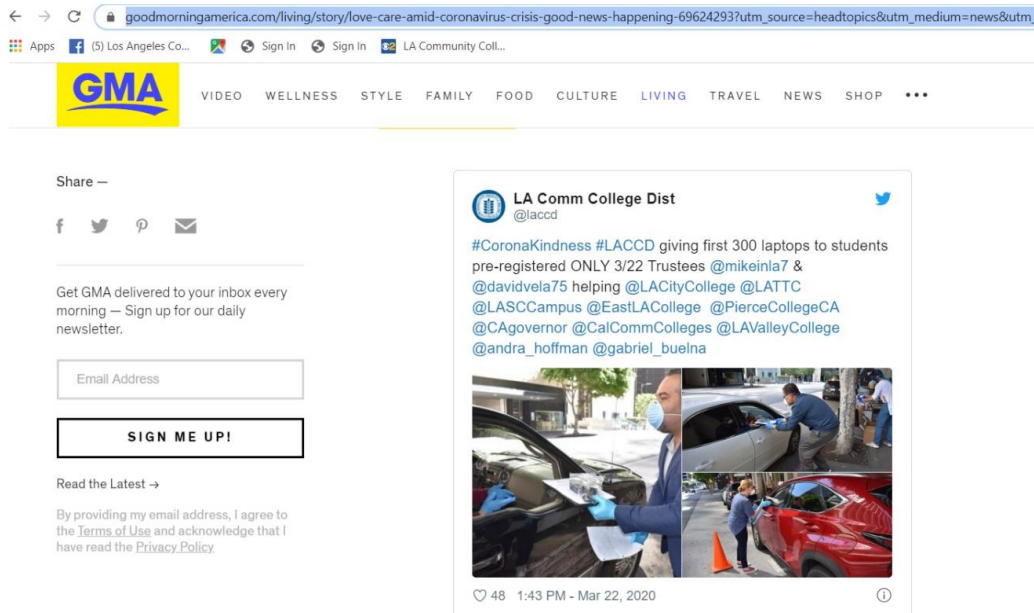
<https://www.facebook.com/1464553543843525/videos/250383312829481/>

Board Meeting April 15

<https://www.facebook.com/1464553543843525/videos/561016277861757/>

News Media Highlights

Media coverage has been both national and local in scope, from information shared on Good Morning America's (GMA) website about the Foundation's first laptop distribution to a national article by the Washington Post on the Chancellor's perspective about federal emergency funding to students.



Washington Post Chancellor Interview & LATTC Student Profile

[Low-income college students are counting on federal aid, but who will get it — and when?](#)

04/09/2020

Bianca Juarez Escamilla got her last paycheck almost a month ago. Her boss at the Los Angeles restaurant where she waits tables promised to call when business picked up. But there's no telling when that will be, with California still locked down.... "We're talking tens of thousands of students in our district. ... They're left out. They're the most vulnerable," said Francisco C. Rodriguez, chancellor of the Los Angeles Community College District, which includes Escamilla's school and eight others, and serves a large number of undocumented students. "Food insecurity... and homelessness among our students continues to be pervasive and has only been exacerbated by covid."

Mental Health Services

<https://laist.com/2020/04/17/community-colleges-mental-health-support-coronavirus.php>

Laptop Distributions

Spectrum News 1, NBC/Telemundo, CBS and Univision

<https://spectrumnews1.com/ca/la-west/education/2020/03/22/laccd-gives-away-300-laptops-for-remote-learning>

<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/program-provides-free-laptops-to-college-promise-students/156774/>

<https://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2020/03/23/coronavirus-la-community-college-district-to-give-out-3000-laptops-amid-switch-to-online-classes/>

Online Transition

<http://laschoolreport.com/how-californias-largest-community-college-district-is-making-the-switch-to-teach-online-in-response-to-covid-19-do-your-best-at-this-moment/>

Initial news about death of LACCD personnel due to COVID-19



[All Los Angeles County public parks to close Easter Sunday over coronavirus](#)

L.A. Times, 04/08/2020

"Among the pathogen's latest victims was an employee of the Los Angeles Community College District, who died Wednesday morning of complications from COVID-19, Chancellor Francisco Rodriguez announced in an email to district colleagues. The employee, who had worked in the district's information technology office for more than 15 years, was hospitalized March 29 after exhibiting symptoms of the disease. The employee "was very well-respected, especially in response to this public health emergency," Rodriguez said in the email. The district is not releasing the person's name to maintain privacy and out of respect for the family."

https://www.lasc.edu/news/In-Remembrance-Of-Kabwe-Chanda?fbclid=IwAR38VoV6X1_U3MM94CdAQMkFU6mY1CPfgDplHkQnn6yohPIryGmTI-3Woto

LA Sentinel

<https://lasentinel.net/community-college-district-announces-info-on-classes-amid-coronavirus-crisis.html>

Chancellor Interview /Buelna News

<https://youtu.be/puoXmzyPC0>

Fall Schedule

<http://www.capoliticalreview.com/capoliticalnewsandviews/some-california-colleges-decide-to-offer-all-fall-classes-online-2/>

<https://www.nacity.com/news/us/ca/los-angeles/los-angeles-community-colleges-will-hold-classes-online-this-fall>

<https://www.record-bee.com/2020/05/05/some-california-colleges-decide-to-offer-all-fall-classes-online/> (technically EdSource original story)

LATTC Foundation

http://www.ladowntownnews.com/community/lattc-board-donates-50k-for-students-in-need/article_20effa2e-8681-11ea-ad71-67b7e7e2b3e8.html

Best Trade-Tech Colleges List

<https://thepakistanpost.net/10-best-trade-schools-in-california-2020/>