

## Chancellor's Message (March 14, 2020)

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### OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

March 14, 2020

Dear LACCD Colleagues:

Earlier today, the Board of Trustees held an [emergency meeting](#) to hear how the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) and our nine colleges have responded to the public health emergency known as COVID-19 Coronavirus and to explore various options for moving forward as an organization.

This global pandemic is serious; however, we have an important responsibility to provide for the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff, while maintaining the integrity of our learning environments and the operational continuity of our large, complex organization.

LACCD will do its part to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 through social distancing and the other measures noted below. Effective immediately, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the following steps at its meeting today, including to:

- **Suspend** all classes Monday, March 16 through Sunday, March 29.
- **Move** the District's Spring Break to run Monday, March 23 through Sunday, March 29 instead of the currently scheduled break, April 6-11.
- **Suspend** in-person services at the colleges, March 16-28. During this time, there will be many offices at the colleges that will also be closed to the public and some staff will begin to work remotely throughout this period with supervisorial approval.
- **Begin** remote learning (online education) and remote business operations on Monday, March 30 through the end of the spring semester.

This action provides our colleges two full weeks to transition to online education for as many disciplines and student services as possible, without impacting the academic schedule. This plan also alleviates the need for additional instructional days.

**It is important to note that all of our colleges and the District's Office will be open during this time.** The planned professional development for faculty to transition to distance education will now be expanded to the full week, March 16-20. Our Student Health Centers and Child Development Centers will also remain open next week to allow parents time to make childcare arrangements, but they will be closed during Spring Break. Police services will be available continuously.

The situation is fluid and changes daily. We must be flexible, nimble and responsible stewards of the public's trust and resources, while committing to keep our employees and students safe and informed. There are still many unanswered questions and we will get answers to you just as soon as possible. Our District and college leadership teams, with our employee bargaining groups and District Academic Senate leaders, have worked endless hours to bring clarity to this unprecedented situation. I appreciate their guidance and consultation, and commend the work we are doing together.

The Board of Trustees, the college and district administrators and I thank each of you for your support, professionalism and patience, as we navigate this enormous challenge together.

Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.  
Chancellor