

03.15.2020

YCCD COVID-19 Response Update

To all Yuba Community College District Faculty and Staff:

We truly appreciate all of the work you are doing to prepare for the transition to remote education starting this Wednesday, March 18. We recognize that implementing the decision to move to remote instruction in such a short timeframe could not be done without everyone working together and supporting each other.

We understand that there is a great deal of uncertainty and concern amongst our students and staff. We share that concern and are working diligently to help alleviate that concern through providing timely information and answers to questions.

The leadership teams of the colleges and the district are responding, as expeditiously as possible, to this situation for what we believe is in the best interest of our students, the faculty, and staff of the district. We are in daily contact with local public health officials throughout the district to monitor the situation in the communities we serve, and we are using their knowledge along with resources from state and federal agencies to help inform our actions.

With guidance from the California Department of Public Health, a 4-phase response plan to the Coronavirus has been developed. We have been operating in Phase-1 of that plan for the last ten days.

Effective today, March 15, 2020, YCCD Chancellor Houston invoking an Emergency Status for the District which transitions us into Phase II of our Coronavirus Response Plan. Chancellor Houston has directed the Colleges' and District leadership to ensure the implementation of this transition no later than the start of classes on March 18, 2020. The details can be found in the memo from Chancellor Houston attached to this email and posted online at www.yccd.edu.

The District's Response Plan is a dynamic document that is continually being edited and updated in response to the fluid nature of the situation. The following is a summary of the Plan. A more detailed version of the plan can be found on the Coronavirus page of the District's website at www.yccd.edu.

Phase 1: Planning and implementing measures to prevent the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19). Key activities include: preparing for the transition to remote education and student services, providing information on symptoms and preventative measures, developing telecommuting procedures for employees, confirming essential operations plan including payroll, communication, security, etc..., increasing cleaning and disinfecting of facilities, and providing resources to help students and faculty with stress and anxiety.

Phase 2: Focus is on implementing remote education and essential services at all levels of the District. Key activities include: implement remote education and student services, limiting visitors on campus, and cancellation of nonessential travel, college and community events.

Phase 3: Focus is on the reduction of essential services offered and transition to a closed campus and district. Key activities include: transition essential services online,

continued support for faculty delivering remote education, provide resources to students, faculty and staff for anxiety, fear and stress, maintain communication, ensuring upkeep and security of facilities.

Phase 4: Focus on maintaining services while all campus and district locations are closed. Key activities include district-wide communication, upkeep and cleaning facilities, campus security, finalizing procedures for "re-opening" campuses.

We strongly encourage any faculty or staff that are sick or have underlying conditions that they believe makes them open to a greater risk through interaction with others to contact their manager for accommodation and, if possible, telecommute for work.

Again, we want to thank everyone for all that you are doing during this challenging time to ensure the safety of our employees and students while ensuring the continuation of meeting the educational needs of our students.

Sincerely,

Dr. Douglas Houston, Chancellor
Yuba Community College District

Dr. Art Pimentel, President
Woodland Community College

Dr. Judy Walters, President
Yuba College