

**From:** Douglas Houston <[dhouston@yccd.edu](mailto:dhouston@yccd.edu)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 22, 2020 7:29:49 PM  
**To:** All YCCD Employees <[All-YCCD@yccd.edu](mailto:All-YCCD@yccd.edu)>  
**Subject:** Coronavirus - Chancellor's 3.22.2020 Update

To YCCD Faculty and Staff.

Good evening to all. Today I recorded a brief YouTube [message](#), sharing my appreciation for what you are doing. If these work for you, I'll do more ... if you have any suggestions on the video quality, you can send them to my production manager ;-)

As you know from my Friday message the Chancellor's Cabinet met this afternoon for a regular update and to discuss plans for 2020 Commencement activities. Commencement is scheduled for Friday, May 15, just under eighth weeks from today.

During our conversation we reaffirmed the importance of the commencement ceremony in the lives of our students and their families. We discussed that if we do decide to cancel traditional commencement exercises, we would substitute 'virtual' ceremonies to acknowledge your hard work and to recognize the achievements of our graduates. We also believe that if we were able to hold a traditional commencement it would truly be a celebration of all that our students and we have endured.

With all of that in mind, the cabinet recommended that we will make the decision whether to cancel a traditional commencement on April 9 and announce it on Friday, April 10. That is still five weeks before the scheduled commencement date allowing time for students and their families to make travel arrangements. During the interim the Colleges' leadership will seek input from various segments of their campuses, on ways to celebrate our graduates in a virtual commencement ceremony should we decide to cancel.

In today's meeting we also discussed, and I want to stress, the imperative to continue delivering key essential support services on site for as long as we can. The students that are using them, truly appreciate that we are open for them. As such we will continue on-campus delivery of the following essential services for as long as possible. Those services are: Library, Computer Labs, certain Instructional Labs, DSPS, Food Pantry, Wi-Fi and technology access, police and M&O.

Over the weekend the Yuba College President announced the suspension of services at both the Sutter County and Beale AFB Campuses, consolidating those services at the YC main campus. As these conditions continue, the College Presidents may have to adjust the level of services at each campus location based on the availability of faculty and staff to support them. Remote delivery of other services will continue as long as the Governor's Stay at Home order is in effect and remote instruction will continue through the end of the semester.

With the announcement of the first three cases in Yuba-Sutter Counties, combined with the first coronavirus death in Yolo County I certainly appreciate the increased anxiety and your concern for yourselves, your family and your colleagues' safety.

I deeply thank you all for the resourcefulness and flexibility you are showing in support of our students and to ensure the continuity of their education.

Please stay safe and care for yourselves and families.

Thank you

**Dr. Douglas B. Houston, Chancellor**

Yuba Community College District

(530) 741-6971

[dhouston@yccd.edu](mailto:dhouston@yccd.edu)

[www.yccd.edu](http://www.yccd.edu)

@Yubadistrict

[www.linkedin.com/in/douglas-houston](http://www.linkedin.com/in/douglas-houston)