



April 3, 2020

Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
California Department of Education
1430 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5901

Dear Superintendent Thurmond:

The California Community Colleges are actively responding to the current COVID-19 crisis, working to ensure that all students have the support and flexibility needed to navigate these uncertain times.

High School Students Planning to Enroll

Transfer Pathways. California Community Colleges provide a streamlined pathway that prepares students for transfer to a participating four-year university, including CSU and UC as well as many independent non-profit colleges and universities. Attend a California Community College, then transfer to one of the many participating four-year colleges and universities. This is the quickest path to earning a bachelor's degree. For more information visit adegreewithaguarantee.com.

Career Education opportunities: California Community Colleges are the largest provider of workforce training in the nation. More than 200 Career Education programs are taught by instructors and expert professionals. Students can complete an associate degree or certificate and be ready for many in-demand good paying jobs. For more information go to: careered.cccco.edu.

Applications & Enrollment: California Community Colleges are "open enrollment" institutions and all applications are accepted for enrollment, regardless of GPA. The California Community Colleges, recognizing that college course placement is more effective when based on previous grades and courses completed, do not require assessment or placement tests for incoming students. Students can start the application and enrollment process at any time by visiting CCCApply.org.



Financial Assistance: Financial aid is available year-round at the California Community Colleges. The types of assistance range from federal financial aid assistance, to state waivers of the \$46 per unit enrollment fee, to assistance programs that help with books, food, rent, and transportation. Students can find additional information about financial assistance by visiting ICanAffordCollege.com.

High School Students Currently Enrolled & Transfer Students

Grading Policies: As community colleges transition to online learning, students can remain their classes and complete them online. During this crisis, we are providing maximum grading flexibility to ensure that students have options for continuing and completing their courses. Student can adjust their grading options from a letter grade to a pass or no-pass option at any time. Students negatively impacted at any time during this crisis also have the option to request an excused withdrawal (EW) or an incomplete grade should they need additional time to complete the course. Choosing one of these options will not impact their academic progress or college GPA. Students should work with their instructors and local campuses to determine the best options for their continued progress.

Online Supports & Resources: As a result of the COVID-19 emergency most colleges have transitioned courses to an online format. A range of supports are available for students, both new and experienced with online learning formats. Students can visit the website <https://cvc.edu/keeplearning/> for access to resources including preparing for online instruction, Canvas tutorials, low-cost and free internet access, and access to online courses.

For answers to additional questions, visit the Community Colleges Chancellor's Office [COVID-19 student resource page](#) and the COVID-19 general information page at <https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Communications-and-Marketing/Novel-Coronavirus>.