

BACKGROUND

The Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) has already indicated that <u>Winter classes and the Spring 2021 semester will remain predominately online</u> due to the COVID-19 public health pandemic. Classes returning to in-person modalities during this time will only occur based on the prevailing <u>Health Orders from the Los</u> <u>Angeles County Department of Public Health</u> (LACDPH) and in accordance with the Health Department's <u>Reopening Protocols for Institutes of Higher Education</u>.

While the County of Los Angeles remains in the state's most restrictive category for reopening and recovery due to high levels of daily cases reported, testing and community transmission rates, it is imperative to have established plans for the eventual return of instruction and services. The EOC has completed a reengagement plan, differentiated for each state category of recovery. Whereas County has yet to provide guidance for Institutions of Higher Education in less restrictive categories, the re-engagement plan relies on the general restrictions provided by the state for each recovery category.

The re-engagement plan provides guidelines for what is permissible for in-person instruction or service in each recovery category. In general, all District and college practices must align with the current health orders and guidelines issued by the LACDPH and the specific protocols for Institutes of Higher Education. In accordance with existing policy, the determination of what returns to campus within these guidelines is a local decision based on college governance, assessment of feasibility and local educational priorities.

Based on the current restrictions and conditions, colleges are permitted to continue to offer only those portions of <u>Essential Infrastructure</u> courses and programs on campus that are considered to be hard to convert into an online, remote learning platform by using the following policy considerations noted below. As the County moves into less restrictive categories, colleges must use the re-engagement plan guidelines to determine additional programs to return to campus. Additional considerations include the following.

POLICY

- Classes brought back for in-person instruction must fall within the recovery plan and follow noted restrictions in the guidelines and any other state and County guidance.
- Limit the number of classes and participants per class to minimize the potential for community spread and that can allow for effective safety guidance, protocols for Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), facial coverings, social distancing, testing and contact tracing
- What can be completed online must be maintained online until otherwise authorized and allowable in the re-engagement plan
- For those classes offered in person, every effort must first be made to maximize the number of course hours occurring online to help minimize the number of course hours occurring in person, including:
 - Online simulations utilized when available and distribution of supplies for at-home activities is permissible to minimize in-person hours
- If the number of courses needed for in-person instruction exceeds the onsite capacity, courses may need to be delayed to a semester where such capacity exists or in which health restrictions are further lifted



COVID-19 RE-ENGAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

December 2020

• Each College President is the final authority on determining the priority for which courses are able to be offered on campus.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

This policy requires the following criteria must be included in all plans, per college, for oncampus instruction operations:

- Cost estimates for PPE and cleaning supplies
- Full adherence by all LACCD faculty, students and staff to all L.A. County health guidelines and protocols of all required equipment, PPE, and cleaning supplies
- Full adherence by all faculty, students and staff to all other District <u>Safety Advisories</u>, <u>Re-Engagement Plan</u> and <u>Recovery Policies</u> as appropriate, especially check-in processes to access college or District facilities
- Complete protocols, plans/documentation and schedules for District/College personnel regarding the cleaning of all needed classroom equipment and workspaces both before and after each classroom session, plus cleaning of restrooms and other facilities
- A communications plan for the distribution of all plans, signage, protocols and procedures for all faculty, students and staff
- Ensure all required special accommodations for students with disabilities for safe return to in-person instruction

Health orders and reopening protocols are subject to change. The LACCD Emergency Operations Center remains in regular contact with County and State Health Officials for any changes that will impact the District's educational delivery and business services operations. Any changes to less restrictive risk tiers that would allow for additional reopening activity will be communicated to the colleges as quickly as possible and will be reflected in revisions to this policy statement <u>posted online</u> with other recovery policies.