



**COVID-19  
MONTHLY UPDATE REPORT**

**FEBRUARY 2021**

**Board of Trustees  
March 11, 2021**

The Board of Trustees is presented with a COVID-19 Monthly Update Report each month, with the last one presented on February 25, 2021. The information provided in this monthly update report includes any changes related to campus operations and the COVID-19 pandemic that occurred during the month of February 2021.

### **COVID-19 ON-CAMPUS REPORTED CASES**

Confirmed, reported positive cases of students and employees who work or attend class(es) on-campus.

In February 2021, the college experienced an increase in the number of student cases compared to previous months. These cases were spread across a number of classes and were not attributed to one or two particular classes, which indicates the cases were unlikely to be class attendance related. The use of Healthy Roster was effective in working with these students and ensuring quarantine. As a precautionary measure, three Physical Education courses went from in-person to online instruction. The high number of cases in February was likely due to student housing and travel.

	<b>July 2020</b>	<b>Aug 2020</b>	<b>Sept 2020</b>	<b>Oct 2020</b>	<b>Nov 2020</b>	<b>Dec 2020</b>	<b>Jan 2021</b>	<b>Feb 2021</b>
<b>Employees</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
<b>Students</b>	0	1	6	3	2	0	8	33

### **IN-PERSON COURSES, SPRING 2021**

10 Exempted Programs in Essential Workforce Fields following an authorized strict, indoor instructional protocol

- Offered in hybrid format with online lectures and in-person labs
- 43 courses with 531 duplicated students, approximately 185 unduplicated students

Physical Education Courses following a strict, outdoor instructional protocol (beginning February 1)

- Offered outdoors with restrictive social distancing and no physical contact, masking and individual control of equipment
- 47 courses with 754 duplicated students, approximately 550 unduplicated students

## **SANTA BARBARA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT USE OF WAKE CAMPUS FACILITIES**

Santa Barbara County Public Health continues to offer vaccinations at the Wake Campus. Vaccinations are being administered per the prioritization guidance from the State and County. SB County Public Health will be relocating their vaccination center from the Wake Campus to an alternate facility after the week of March 8, 2021. The change in location was initiated by SB County Public Health.

## **VACCINATIONS FOR EDUCATION SECTOR**

In early January, the District received confirmation from the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department that current SBCC employees will be eligible to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine in Phase 1B, Tier 1 as part of the “Education” category. Vaccinations are a rapidly evolving health challenge. The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department is working diligently to secure enough vaccines to provide to our entire community.

In addition to ongoing coordination with the Public Health Department, staff has created an [information webpage](#) for SBCC employees to check their eligibility and appointment access through other healthcare providers or pharmacies. This page will continue to be updated as more information becomes available.

Beginning March 1, TK-12 Educators and Staff along with other sectors became eligible for vaccination. Due to the limited number of vaccines available, the SB County Public Health Department developed a separate process for Institutes of Higher Education. Beginning the week of March 8, SBCC will be allocated a very limited number of vaccine appointments for those SBCC employees who are required to work in-person and who have highest exposure risks. It is expected that SBCC will continue to be offered appointment slots on a weekly basis.

The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department expects that the State’s MyTurn system will come online for Santa Barbara County by the end of March. At that time, we hope there will be expanded access for all higher education employees.

## Currently Vaccinating Snapshot

STILL ELIGIBLE	STARTING MARCH 1	STARTING MARCH 15
Healthcare, community health workers, emergency medical personnel, long-term care staff and residents.  Adults 65+	Emergency Services, Food & Agriculture Workers, Education & Child Care	Healthcare providers may use their clinical judgement to vaccinate individuals age 16-64 who are deemed to be at the very highest risk for morbidity and mortality from COVID-19 as a direct result of several severe health conditions.

### **FACILITIES SAFETY PROJECTS**

The District Facilities and Operations team continues to install health guards across all three campuses, with a focus on employee offices, reception areas, and other administrative shared spaces. The timeline to complete installation of health guards in these spaces is by June 2021. The District continues to assess how health guards can be utilized in classroom spaces.

### **HVAC ASSESSMENT**

Palt and Associates, an HVAC specialist consulting firm, started the process of completing an HVAC assessment across all three campuses at the end of February 2021. The assessment is planned to be complete by the end of March 2021. The results of the assessment will be published and will inform the District of what repairs are needed and/or which spaces have sufficient ventilation to be occupied.

### **ADDITIONAL COVID-19 RELIEF FUNDING - HEERF II**

*The following information on HEERF II funding is carried over from the previous months report as it remains applicable with funding decisions in progress.*

The District will be receiving \$11.8M as a part of the new federal COVID Emergency Relief Funds, the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II). Of the \$11.8M, there is a requirement to spend at least \$2.8M on emergency relief financial aid grants to students. This leaves a maximum of \$8.9M available to the institution to spend on additional financial aid grants for students and/or to cover costs related to COVID.

The HEERF II comes with new spending rules that are less restrictive than HEERF I. The institutional portion of the funds can be used to cover any costs associated with:

- significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus,
- defraying expenses associated with coronavirus (including recovery of lost revenues),
- or to carry out student support activities that address needs related to coronavirus.

Employees, departments and units were able to request HEERF II funds through a request form through February 26, 2021. The District received over 140 requests for HEERF II funds from employees, departments and units. Requests are being compiled into various expenditure categories for public review at the College Planning Council (CPC) in early March. The list of approved or declined proposals will be brought forward to CPC in mid March. Requestors will be notified their proposal was approved or declined and approved spending can begin as early as late March.

Applications for direct aid to students opened on February 10, 2021. Currently, efforts to award (\$2.8 million to credit students, and \$300,000 to noncredit students) are underway. The District will award additional resources going forward as informed by the ongoing impacts of the pandemic.

## **TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT**

The District continues to make available to students and employees various technology devices. The latest number of chromebooks and hotspots checked out is as follows:

- 911 chromebooks checked out (Students 757, Employees 154)
  - 154 chromebooks still available for check out
- 842 hotspots checked out (Students 635, Employees 207)
  - 168 hotspots still available for check out

The IT Department continues to provide other technology devices such as scanners, webcams, iPads, iMacs, and other essential equipment to students and employees.