

STAY HOME. SAVE LIVES.



April 8, 2020

UPDATE

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UPDATE: New COVID-19 Guidance and Resources for Oregon Postsecondary Education and Workforce Partners

Updates on Governor Brown's education announcements today, and other new guidance now available on the [HECC website](#)

Salem, OR – The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) has added new and updated resources on the [Oregon HECC COVID-19 webpage for Postsecondary Education Partners](#) and [HECC home page](#) for Oregon higher education and workforce partners. Governor Brown [announced at a press conference on April 8, 2020](#) that she is extending the timeline for the previous executive order regarding higher education in Oregon through the current academic term. Oregon colleges and universities were directed through [Executive Order 20-09](#) to refrain from in-person instruction, with exceptions only for some programs critical to the emergency or resiliency effort. They were also ordered to limit all in-person operations to only critical activities, and to implement strict social distancing measures for those operations that continue to be in-person.

Ben Cannon, executive director of HECC, said, "We know that we are asking a lot of Oregonians, including the many thousands of students and educators in the higher education community, in order to protect our communities. We are thankful for the high level of innovation and collaboration across higher education, with a priority placed on public health, as institutions transform to predominantly remote learning during this challenging time. This has required a quick and major transformation of delivery channels, and we thank faculty, staff, students, and all who have made these fast adjustments."

In addition to the Governor's announcement today, the Oregon Department of Education issued [Graduation Pathways 2020](#) guidance to high school seniors. Some high school students may have questions regarding their admission to a college or university this fall. Please see the new [Admissions and Enrollment during COVID-19 section of the HECC FAQ](#). The admissions criteria of public and private institutions is established by the individual institutions under the authority of their governing boards. Prospective and future college students are advised to check directly with their college or university admissions office regarding their admissions process during COVID-19.

However, numerous institutions are offering added flexibility, and Oregon's seven public universities and OHSU have issued a joint statement related to their approach to incoming first-year students [available in our FAQ here](#). All new resources on the Oregon HECC website are highlighted below. Oregon public and private college and university partners are encouraged to share these resources within their networks. In addition, we encourage our partners to share information on how to stay safe and save lives. Download "[Stay Home, Save Lives](#)" [social media images in multiple languages here](#). Since the situation with COVID-19 is evolving, the HECC website resources below will be updated on an ongoing basis, so we encourage our partners to keep checking back.

NEW Resources for Oregon Colleges and Universities

[Oregon HECC COVID-19 webpage for Postsecondary Education Partners](#) on the 2019 novel coronavirus and COVID-19 UPDATED

- Governor's Press Release: [Governor Kate Brown Extends Coronavirus School Closures Through End of School Year, April 8, 2020](#) - NEW!
 - [Transcript of Governor's Remarks at Education Press Conference, April 8, 2020](#) - NEW!
- [Key Information \(FAQ\) for Oregon College and University Campus Communities on the 2019 novel coronavirus and COVID-19](#), UPDATED. Includes guidance related to:
 - Communicating on College Campuses - UPDATED
 - Cancellations or Suspension of Classes/Campus Events
 - Preventing Discrimination and Stigma
 - Social Distancing and Mitigation
 - Travel and Study Abroad
 - Guidelines related to Residence Halls, Dining Halls, Sports and Recreational Facilities, Libraries, and Other Community Settings
 - [Guidance on In-Person Program Offerings](#) at Colleges and Universities during COVID-19 Outbreak
 - Resources for Shifting to Remote or Online Teaching/Learning
 - Cleaning and Disinfecting
 - Student Financial Aid During COVID-19- NEW!
 - Postsecondary Admissions and Enrollment during COVID-19 (including joint statement of public universities and OHSU) - NEW!
 - Information-Sharing Among College and University Leadership
- [COVID-19 Unemployment and other Economic Relief Sources for Private Career Schools and Private Colleges and Universities, April 6, 2020](#) - NEW!
- [Oregon College and University Website Pages on COVID-19](#) - UPDATED
- US Department of Education: [UPDATED Guidance for interruptions of study related to Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) - UPDATED
- Federal Student Aid: [Coronavirus and Forbearance Info for Students, Borrowers, and Parents](#) - UPDATED
- [Stay Home, Save Lives Outreach Resources](#) - NEW!

NEW Resources for Individuals and Businesses Experiencing Layoffs

- The HECC Office of Workforce Investments has expanded this web page with [videos, guidance, and links for Oregonians and businesses facing layoffs](#). NEW!

- Also see the Oregon Employment Department [COVID-19 Related Business Layoffs, Closures, and Unemployment Insurance Benefits](#) and the Business Oregon [COVID-19 Small Business Navigator](#).

NEW Resources for Volunteering in Oregon during COVID-19:

- The Oregon Volunteer Commission has issued resources for [learning how to help your community during COVID-19](#). - NEW!

Oregonians should go to the [Oregon Health Authority website here](#) for the most up-to-date public information on COVID-19 in Oregon, presented in multiple languages. This includes: Frequently Asked Questions, current status, prevention guidelines, as well as information for health providers, local public health authorities, families, schools, tribes and more. The U.S. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) website has the most current information about COVID-19 in the United States.

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The State of Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) envisions a future in which all Oregonians—and especially those whom our systems have underserved and marginalized—benefit from the transformational power of high-quality postsecondary education and training. For more information, go to www.Oregon.gov/HigherEd