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PRESS RELEASE

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UPDATE: New COVID-19 Information Resources for Oregon Higher Education Partners

An expanded FAQ on COVID-19 and information on the Governor's March 19 Executive Order to Higher Education is available here www.oregon.gov/highered/about/Pages/COVID19.aspx

Salem, OR – The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) has added new and updated guidance on the [Oregon HECC COVID-19 Webpage for College and University Partners](#) to include the directives in the [Governor's recent Executive Order which calls for significantly reducing in-person operations at Oregon colleges and universities](#), and to address key topics of concern at Oregon higher education institutions. Oregon public and private college and university partners are encouraged to share these resources within their networks.

With the Governor's Executive Order 20-09 on March 19, 2020, all in-person classroom, laboratory, and other instruction is prohibited from March 21, 2020, through April 28, 2020, with the exemption of training in specific fields, including health care, that may be essential for our response to this crisis. In addition, all colleges and universities must limit all on-campus operations to critical functions, and employ strict social distancing measures.

The updates to the [Oregon HECC COVID-19 Webpage for College and University Partners](#) are noted below. The "Key Information for Oregon College and University Campus Communities," previously in document format, is now an [FAQ website page displaying guidance for Oregon institutions viewable by category](#). Since the situation with COVID-19 is evolving, the HECC website resources will be updated with new information and guidance on an ongoing basis, so we encourage our partners to keep checking back.

NEW Resources for Oregon Colleges and Universities

[Governor's Press Release: Governor Kate Brown Announces New Executive Order For Higher Education Institutions, March 18, 2020 - NEW!](#)

- [Executive Order 20-09: Suspension of In-person instructional Activities at Higher Education Institutions in Response to Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Outbreak - NEW!](#)

[Oregon HECC COVID-19 Webpage for College and University Partners](#) on the 2019 novel coronavirus and COVID-19 UPDATED

- [Key Information \(FAQ\) for Oregon College and University Campus Communities on the 2019 novel coronavirus and COVID-19](#), March 20, 2020, UPDATED AND IN NEW ONLINE FORMAT. Includes guidance related to:
 - Communicating on College Campuses
 - Cancellations or Suspension of Classes/Campus Events UPDATED
 - Preventing Discrimination and Stigma
 - Social Distancing and Mitigation UPDATED
 - Travel and Study Abroad - UPDATED
 - Guidelines related to Residence Halls, Dining Halls, Sports and Recreational Facilities, Libraries, and Other Community Settings - NEW!
 - [Guidance on In-Person Program Offerings](#) at Colleges and Universities during COVID-19 Outbreak - NEW!
 - Resources for Shifting to Remote or Online Teaching/Learning
 - Cleaning and Disinfecting
 - Information-Sharing Among College and University Leadership
- [Oregon College and University Website Pages on COVID-19](#)

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.

Ben Cannon, executive director of the HECC, says, "We are pleased by the the high level of collaboration and coordination across the Oregon higher education community, and the priority placed on the safety of all individuals, as institutions transform their delivery methods to continue their educational missions during this extraordinarily challenging time."

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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