Update March 13, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

We have confirmed that the governor's direction closes K-12 public education, not higher education.
COCC will continue to implement the plan that was shared yesterday (see March 12 update below).
This situation continues to evolve rapidly. Please be assured that we will continue to communicate with you regularly.

Be safe and stay well.

Dr. Laurie Chesley
COCC President

Central Oregon Community College Statement on Winter Term Finals and Spring Term Classes

Central Oregon Community College recognizes that the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is of utmost concern to our students, staff, and community. COCC is committed to providing a safe and healthy educational environment, and recognizes the way we provide service will need to shift for a time in response to recommendations from the Governor, Oregon Health Authority, public health officials, Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to help slow the rate of exposure and potential illness.

At this time, the state recommends that colleges and universities work to preserve the continuity of essential academic operations and other supports for students. Other recommendations include that colleges and universities should continue to consult with local and state health authorities regarding any closure decisions. Additionally, colleges should shift instruction to remote/online learning options when feasible. Colleges and universities should cancel non-essential school-associated gatherings and group activities that do not allow for individuals to maintain a distance of three feet or more from one another.

With this guidance, COCC is taking the following steps:
- Final exams for Winter Term are expected to be delivered remotely. We realize this will not work for all classes, so for those classes that will meet in person, we will practice social distancing. Faculty members are working diligently on this, and we ask for your patience. If instructors have adjusted the format for the final exam, students will receive a communication by Sunday night, either through email or Blackboard.
- Barber Library and some campus computer labs will remain open for students who do not have computer access at home.
- There will be no classes March 30 through April 3. Faculty will use this time to develop alternative instructional delivery methods and materials. For Spring Term, we will encourage faculty to shift to remote/online learning tools like Blackboard and Zoom, where feasible, rather than in-person classes. However, COCC recognizes the challenges of remote learning with many classes and programs, such as Career and Technical classes, labs and studio classes. These may continue in person, but COCC will implement social distancing measures to maintain a distance of three feet between individuals.

- Spring term classes will begin on Monday, April 6, one week later than originally scheduled. We will begin the term with remote instruction. If this is not possible, we again will practice social distancing. This alternate delivery is anticipated to last until April 10 and possibly longer.
- Spring term will end on June 12 as scheduled, but there will be no week reserved for final exams. Classes will be scheduled through Friday, June 12. Final exams will be held during the last scheduled class period, as is done during summer term.
- College support services (including the Library, CAP Services, Tutoring and Testing, Disability Services, Computer Labs and others) remain open during normal hours.
- COCC will cancel all events where more than 250 participants are expected, and the College will not hold non-essential meetings with more than 20 people.
- The College is limiting all non-essential college travel. This includes in-state, out-of-state and international travel.
- The move-in day for Wickiup Hall students will be Friday, April 3. Students who need to adjust their move-in day or need residence hall housing between Winter and Spring terms should contact the housing office.

If you have questions, please contact welcome@cocc.edu or call 541 383-7500.