Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

In order to keep our community updated on the latest coronavirus (COVID-19) developments, Bakersfield College is providing this webpage. Our goal is to provide you with resources and the latest news on the coronavirus (COVID-19).

State of Emergency/News and Updates

State of Emergency

- Governor Newsom Declares State of Emergency (http://cert1.mail-west.com/janmc7mmnPyjzO/Pqtmuyu/wtq5ot1o71m/mPy88u5f/qvng/m6c0c1o71mP/wg6ntqfrc?_c=d%7Cze7pzanhwlg%7C7C17b1p062dga6b6&_ce=1583367956.7ecad43776f5712a8c9a1a0de11457b3)
to Help State Prepare for Broader Spread of COVID-19

News and Updates

- Renegade Roundup from President Christian (03/03/20) (/download/31354)
- California Department of Public Health (https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV2019.aspx)
- California Community College Chancellors Office (https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Communications-and-Marketing/Novel-Coronavirus)
- The California Department of Public Health (https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OPA/Pages/NR20-012.aspx) has compiled the most recent states on COVID-19
  - Follow California Department Health on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/CAPublicHealth/)
- The World Health Organization (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1APwq1df6Mw&feature=youtu.be) created an informative video about COVID-19

There are currently no known cases of Coronavirus in our community.
What is the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

The Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.

Symptoms

Reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death for confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases.

Symptoms (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/symptoms.html) may appear 2-14 days after exposure

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

Staying Healthy

- Stay home when you are sick
- Make sure to wash your hands (https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/) frequently for at least 20 seconds especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing
- Refrain from touching your face.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- The CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
- Call your healthcare professional if you develop symptoms, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you have recently traveled from an area with widespread or ongoing community spread of (COVID-19) (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/transmission.html#geographic).

What is BC Doing?

- As a supplementary precautionary measure, disinfection and sanitization routines are being expanded during this phase:
  - All exterior and suite entrance door handles will be disinfected multiple times each day.
  - All bathroom fixtures, water taps, etc., will be sanitized multiple times a day.
- New hand sanitizers have been ordered and are being placed around campus. Additional dispensers and wipes are being bought and placed on the campuses.
- The college will ensure these hand sanitizers and bathroom soap are refilled and replaced on a routine basis.
- A subcommittee was formed to monitor the situation as well as communicate continuously with Kern County Public Health.
- Student Health and Wellness Center staff were briefed with updated instructions and proper strategies for educating students.
- Faculty and staff are encouraging students and staff to stay home if they have flu-like symptoms, colds, or other similar illnesses.
- BC M&O will be replenishing all hand sanitizer stations at Noon and 4 p.m. at the Weill Institute, BCSW, and Delano. BC Panorama campus stations will be replenished at 11:15 a.m., 2 p.m., and 5:15 p.m.
- M&O Staff will continuously wipe all main corridor door handles with disinfectant (interior & exterior) and wipe all restroom fixtures with disinfectant.

BC Classes

There are currently no plans to cancel classes, and we will not plan to do so unless directed by our Kern County Department of Public Health. In addition, only the county Health Department has the authority to quarantine community members. We will follow the guidance of the Kern County Department of Public Health and the California Department of Public Health before we make any decisions. We are not planning to cancel classes or suspend or modify operations at this time. Currently, we believe there is no need to do so.
Discrimination based on race or ethnicity only makes it harder to keep everyone healthy. While COVID-19 may have started in China, having Chinese or Asian ancestry – or any other ancestry – does not make a person more vulnerable to or a cause of this illness. COVID-19 doesn't recognize race or ethnicity.


Travel Guidelines

- CDC travel health notices (https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices)
- State Department or specific country advisories (https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/)

Student Health and Wellness Center (/student/health)

Student Health Services (/student/health/services)
Student Health Resources (/student/health/resources)
Tobacco Free BC (/tobaccofree)
Coronavirus 2020 Update (/covid-19-update)