



Dear students,

We hope that you are continuing to enjoy a safe, healthy and restful winter break. Over the last several weeks, we have continued to monitor the trajectory of the COVID-19 Omicron variant. As you have likely heard from local and national news outlets, positive COVID-19 cases have surged both locally and nationally. Although Omicron cases are generally less severe compared to earlier variants of the virus (particularly for those vaccinated), it is much more contagious, and the impact is being felt in our region's hospitals and at testing centers.

While public health officials expect the surge of infections to be relatively brief – measured in weeks rather than months according to the recent experiences of other countries such as South Africa – the peak for California will likely happen in mid-January. Therefore, in an effort to slow the spread and help protect the health of our communities, the first two weeks of classes (Monday, Jan. 24 to Sunday, Feb. 6) will be **online only** for classes offered at CSUSM and CSUSM at Temecula, with limited exceptions.

On Monday, Feb. 7, we will return to the published class schedule.

Please note:

- While almost all courses will switch to online temporarily, a limited number will remain in person when necessary; for example, to meet external accreditation standards. Please monitor your email for updates from your professors with instructions for the first two weeks of class meetings.
- Ongoing practica, placements and internships that occur off site will continue as directed by that site. You are encouraged to check in with your internship coordinator.
- Large in-person gatherings will be limited. Fan attendance at CSUSM basketball games is suspended temporarily.
- Student employees should confirm with their supervisors before coming to campus for work.
- UVA and The QUAD will remain open. Residents will receive an email from CSUSM Housing about testing before the return to campus.

CSUSM and CSUSM at Temecula services and offices will be available during normal operating hours, but **most resources and services will be offered virtually**. Please refer to [CSUSMasOne.edu](https://csusmasone.edu) for links to helpful online resources.

Technology Support

CSUSM will provide loans of laptops and other IT hardware to those who require that technology to learn or work in a virtual environment. To request technology support and/or equipment, please fill out [this form](#).

An on-campus computer lab will be available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Kellogg 2000.

COVID-19 Boosters

[Per the recently revised CSU policy](#), CSUSM students and employees are required to receive the COVID-19 booster as of Jan. 18 or as soon as they are eligible, unless a medical or religious exemption has been approved. (Represented employees will not be subject to the booster requirement until the CSU concludes its meet-and-confer process with its labor unions.) Please refer to the [Dec. 22, 2021 campuswide email](#) for instructions to submit documentation or visit [this webpage](#).

The CDC has shortened the recommended waiting period for COVID-19 boosters for people who completed their primary COVID-19 vaccination series with Pfizer's shots. The current recommended waiting period (as of today's date) is:

- Johnson & Johnson – two months after receiving vaccine.
- Pfizer – five months after receiving second dose.
- Moderna – six months after receiving second dose.

To find a vaccine clinic near you, visit: <https://myturn.ca.gov/>.

Free COVID-19 Testing for CSUSM Employees and Students

The COVID-19 testing centers located at the Clarke Field House and CSUSM at Temecula are [open with adjusted hours](#). Wait times are significantly lower compared to other regional testing locations, and results are available within 24 hours.

Thank You

The pace of news related to COVID-19 has ramped up, and guidance and information are shifting almost daily. Please know that we will continue to provide timely updates as needed.

Your health and safety, as well as your academic success, are of the highest priority to us. Please know that our caring faculty and staff are here and ready to support you. If you have questions about this message or need [resources for support](#), you are welcome to email CSUSMasOne@csusm.edu or reach out to the [Cougar Care Network](#).

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