



Employee Update on the Reopening of California's Economy

Following 15 months of COVID-19 public health restrictions and color-coded tier systems, today Gov. Gavin Newsom announced the full reopening of California's economy. According to Newsom, California has retired the "Blueprint for a Safer Economy" and launched a new state public health order with less restrictive COVID-19 safeguards. [Today's San Diego Union-Tribune has an article about what to expect in San Diego County.](#)

As of today, all sectors in the [Blueprint Activities and Business Tiers Chart](#) may return to usual pre-COVID-19 operations with a few exceptions.

While most businesses will not require social distancing or capacity limits, masks will still be required in a handful of settings regardless of vaccination status:

- On public transportation such as airplanes, trains, buses, ships, ferries, taxis and ride-shares; and in transportation hubs, including airports, bus and train stations, marinas or seaports, subway stations or other areas of public transportation.
- Indoors at K-12 schools, child-care centers and other youth settings.
- Hospitals and health-care settings, including senior care or long-term care centers.
- State and local correctional facilities and detention centers.
- Homeless shelters, emergency shelters and cooling centers.

Masks will also still be required for unvaccinated individuals in businesses and indoor public settings, including: retail stores, restaurants, theaters, family entertainment centers and state and local government offices that are open to the public.

On-Campus Guidelines for Employees

Rules for wearing masks and physically distancing in the workplace fall under the purview of Cal OSHA. New rules that align with the California Department of Public Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are expected to be voted on at their next board meeting this Thursday and may go into effect shortly after that. At this time, all employees must continue to follow [CSUSM's current face-covering guidance](#) and [safety requirements](#), wearing masks indoors, in vehicles, and outdoors when within 6 feet of others. The situation is fluid and we will keep you updated as new information transpires.

Transitioning from Remote to On-Campus Working

On Monday, Aug. 2 all non-faculty employees will return to campus to prepare for the fall semester. If any employee would like to voluntarily adjust their remote schedule to return to working on campus sooner, please contact your manager to make arrangements. [Until Cal OSHA guidance changes, physical distancing and mask wearing will still be required for all employees while on campus indoors.](#) Masks will be optional outdoors with physical distancing.

We understand that due to caregiving or other special circumstances, some employees may not be able to return to campus full time on Aug. 2. Managers will work with staff on an individual basis to address these unique situations. Any employee who requires reasonable accommodations due to a health condition should reach out to the Office of Human Resources to discuss options.

For those interested in ongoing telecommuting, the Office of Human Resources is working to implement an updated telecommuting policy and will be meeting and conferring with union leadership. More information will be provided as soon as it is available.

CSUSM Corporation employees will transition back to campus on the same schedule, and the CSUSM Corporation is working to develop its own telecommuting policy that will closely align with the campus'.

CSU COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement

In April, [the California State University Office of the Chancellor announced](#) that all students, faculty and staff who access campus facilities at any university location be immunized against COVID-19. This requirement is conditioned upon full approval of one or more vaccines by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, as well as adequate availability of the fully approved vaccines. This requirement will become effective at the beginning of fall 2021 or upon full FDA approval of the vaccine – whichever occurs later. The CSU policy and related implementation details are still under development – more information will be shared as soon as it is available.

White House COVID-19 College Challenge

Last week, CSUSM joined about 580 colleges and universities across the nation that have pledged participation in the [White House COVID-19 College Challenge](#). The challenge, announced by the White House and U.S. Department of Education this month, is part of an initiative to support the vaccination of at least 70% of U.S. adults by July 4. Participating colleges commit to taking three key actions to help get their campus communities vaccinated: engaging every student, faculty, and staff member; organizing their college communities; and delivering vaccine access for all.

Currently, all individuals over the age of 12 are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. If you haven't had a chance to get your vaccine yet, we highly encourage you to check with your healthcare provider or find locations and schedule an appointment at <https://www.vaccines.gov/>.

Upcoming Events

You are invited to attend several upcoming events intended to provide support, resources and information about the return to campus this fall:

- **Repopulating and Reconnecting with Compassion**

Wednesday, June 23 from 2-4 p.m.

Zoom link: <https://csusm.zoom.us/j/85313279473>

The Council of Care and Student Affairs' Investing In You program will co-host a supportive space for faculty and staff to share their excitement and concerns about our return to in-person work and learning.

The program includes repopulation updates from Dr. Lorena Checa, vice president for Student Affairs, and Dr. Carl Kemnitz, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs; and a conversation centered on sharing challenges and successes from the past year as well as exploring our common thoughts and feelings to help us support one another as we plan for our return to campus (facilitated by the Council of Care team, which includes representatives from FACES, the Staff Center and the Cougar Care Network).

- **Preparing for Re-Entry from COVID-19: Managing Fear and Anxiety**

Tuesday, June 22 from 10-11 a.m.

[Click here to join the Live Broadcast, no registration necessary.](#)

Hosted by the CSU Systemwide Human Resources, discuss common concerns, fears and anxieties about re-entry; learn how to empathize with others who might not share your views; choose practical strategies like self-talk, self-care, mindfulness, breathing exercises and soothing techniques; target how to help others, especially children and older adults; understand how and when LifeMatters EAP can help.

- **Success of Stress: Thriving in a Chaotic World**

Tuesday, Aug. 24 from 2-3 p.m.

[Click here to join the Live Broadcast, no registration necessary.](#)

Hosted by the CSU Systemwide Human Resources, learn about the causes of stress; the art of resiliency; mindset and attitudes; habits and actions.

Ongoing Updates and Information

While there are still details to work out in the coming weeks, we want to thank all those who have contributed to the success of spring 2021 and have assisted in planning for fall 2021 when we will welcome many new students to our academic community.

As new information becomes available related to the upcoming semester, updates to FAQs on the CSUSM as One website will be published with important updates highlighted in the weekly "This Week at CSUSM" email (check your CSUSM email inbox every Monday morning). If you have questions that have not yet been addressed by this message, we welcome you to email CSUSMasOne@csusm.edu.

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