

New SWC Spring 22 Remote Operations & Protocols for Vaccinations, Boosters, and Testing

Southwestern Community College API ONLY , Student

Sent 01/21/2022 16:41 PST via   by Rachel Fischer



Vice President's Message



Dear Southwestern College Jaguars,

Late last fall, we were excitingly looking forward to bringing more students, classes, and employees back to our beautiful campuses. The energy of having our students and employees on campus cannot be replaced. However, as the COVID-19 omicron variant continued to spread quicker than past variants, we made the decision to move our operations remote during intersession. Almost all of our intersession classes were already scheduled online, which minimized the impact to students and faculty.

Unfortunately, the omicron-driven surge has not wavered, and public health protocols have tightened again. We may be close to a peak, but we haven't gotten there yet. We also know that once case rates peak, it will take some time to stabilize and return to a level where public health protocols relax again. Our college continues to make decisions based on the science behind COVID prevention; guidance from our public health experts; and feedback from our students and employees.

The following decisions have been made by Southwestern College leadership:

Spring Class Modality

In-person classes that begin January 31 will start and run remotely via zoom through Friday, February 25. If new COVID-19 case infection rates are not improving by February 15, then the District will consider maintaining remote/online operations throughout the remainder of the Spring semester to avoid multiple changes in modality. The February 15 decision date will give us enough time to capture the most current case infection rate for San Diego County. Your instructors will be sending you information next week via email on how to access your courses remotely. Please contact your instructors if you do not hear from them next week.

There are some courses that will be approved to run in-person January 31 - February 25, with specified district health and safety protocols. We will send information on which courses are approved to run in-person next week. **Students in these courses will be required to follow the below vaccination and booster protocols.** Courses that are hard to convert to a remote setting, such as performing arts (music, dance, theatre), science labs, landscape courses, among others are being considered. SWC's Allied Health and First Responder programs will continue to meet in-person.

Vaccinations and Boosters Required

All students attending in-person class(es) or accessing in-person services are required to be vaccinated (two doses of a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine or one dose of the Johnson and Johnson/Janssen vaccine) before attending any in-person classes or accessing in-person services and must submit their vaccination status via the Vaccination Status ServiceNow form. **If you received your second dose of a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine more than six months ago or the first dose of the Johnson and**

Johnson/Janssen vaccine more than two months ago, you are required to get a booster shot in order to participate in in-person classes. The Vaccination Status ServiceNow form is currently being updated for Spring 2022 courses and will be available early next week. Step-by-step instructions on how to submit your vaccination and booster status via the Vaccination Status ServiceNow form will be provided as soon as the updates to the ServiceNow platform are complete.

Medical and Religious Exemptions: Students who wish to request a medical or religious exemption will need to submit a request for the spring 2022 semester via the ServiceNow platform (available next week) and will be required to get tested twice a week. Information on how to request a medical or religious exemption will be emailed to all students next week.

Get Vaccinated or Boosted Now

Students can access [free vaccination sites](#) throughout the County of San Diego for vaccinations and booster shots. You can find additional vaccination sites at myturn.ca.gov. Already vaccinated or plan on getting vaccinated? Join the SWC Jaguar Vaccination Challenge and get a \$100 SWC Bookstore voucher after you submit your vaccination documentation in ServiceNow. The Vaccination Status ServiceNow form is currently being updated for spring 2022 courses. Step-by-step instructions on how to submit your vaccination status via the Vaccination Status ServiceNow form will be provided as soon as the updates to the ServiceNow platform are complete.

Spring Student Services and District Operations

Student Services and District operations will remain online through Friday, February 25. Visit our [Virtual Welcome Center](#) or [Virtual lobbies](#) for Student Affairs assistance. Virtual Hours for the Student Affairs division are:

Monday 8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday 8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday 8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Masks

Well-fitted masks will continue to be required for all indoor settings. Masks must be worn with a firm fit over the mouth and nose. Training materials on well-fitting masks will be distributed in communication to students and employees. The District may consider a mask requirement outdoors when maintaining a safe distance with others is not possible. Masks must adhere to the Centers for Disease Control [guidelines](#).

Testing

Testing will continue to be required twice a week for students with medical and/or religious exemptions while attending in-person classes. The District may consider increasing the frequency of required testing and require frequent testing to classes that have been approved to meet in-person during the districtwide remote/online instructional period. (The availability of testing kits and materials may impact this decision.)

Thank you all for exercising the necessary flexibility we learned at the start of this pandemic. Together, we will continue navigating through this with our students at the forefront of our minds.

Best,



Tina M. King, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent
Vice President for
Student Affairs
Pronouns: She/Her/ella



Post Updates (0)

