

Student Town Hall

07 April 2020 / 1:30 PM / Zoom Meeting

Updates

- **Announcements**

- The State Chancellor Office has given the option to extend our Spring Semester out to June 30th, if needed. We do not think this is necessary at this point.
- Adjusting time for weekly Town Hall Meetings
 - i. Regular staff meetings are resuming next week so we have to adjust our Town Hall Meeting times.
 - ii. Tues/Thurs on 12:30 - 1:30 starting next week
 - iii. Still meeting this Thursday at 1:30
- Wednesday April 22nd is next Financial Aid disbursement and the last day for an automatic Emergency Withdrawal (EW)
- May 10th is the last day to apply for Pass/No Pass
 - i. Check with a counselor before taking a class Pass / No Pass especially if you plan on transferring. You can apply online

- **Resources**

- Adobe is finally available for students and we will send out instructions soon on how to access.
- Additional tutoring will be available through an application called Pieces. The District is working on doing somethings District wide
- If for some reason you have students who require specialized software that do not run on Chromebooks, reach out to the Department Chair or Dean so we can provide the resources the student needs to complete their classes.

- **Grants**

- The update from yesterday (Monday, April 6th) listed 2 different stipends that students can apply for two separate grants:
 - i. The first is through the State Chancellor's office.
 - ii. The second is through our LACC Foundation.
- The State Grant is maxed out, so there's only the LACC Foundation available.

- The first disbursement will be made this week and disbursements will continue to be distributed until they run out of money
- We still have the \$50 gift cards available through The District foundation, students can apply online through their student portal.
- **Parking permits.**
 - Any student who has a valid parking permit for this term(Spring 2020), the permit will be applicable for Fall 2020.
 - If a student is set to graduate this semester, then we will give them a parking refund for **half** of the semester. The students who are eligible will get a refund after the semester is complete.
- **Nursing program**
 - The Health Core is enlisting the services of students who are serving in the nursing program to be able to do some work at the hospitals right now.
 - Students that want to volunteer can. It may be possible to get clinical hours, but students should check with their specific programs. It is also possible that some of these opportunities are being paid
- **Health Fee's**
 - The Board of Trustees have a rule stating that If students are enrolled in all online classes, they do not need to pay a health fee.
 - The Health Center is still available through The Wesley Clinic, students just need to show ID.
 - The Board will be reviewing this rule so that we can make sure they can use the Health Center in the Summer/Fall. For this to be possible, the students will likely pay a health fee. The Board has to pass a ruling that they will charge a health fee although classes will continue online until further notice.
- **Athletics**
 - Athletics have become a work in progress throughout our District. All 9 Colleges are meeting on how to move forward with the athletics department.
- **Cranium cafe**
 - Cranium Cafe is up and operational
 - It can be accessed through Canvas
 - All student services are available here

- **Funding**

- The Federal Government passed several Stimulus Bills; however no money has been distributed yet
- The Federal Government is working on the 4th stimulus package oriented towards the workforce and workforce development.
- To receive your stimulus check, you would have had to have filed a tax return. The President will send out important information on how to file a tax return.
- Students should file one now so that they are eligible to receive money from the stimulus package. The money hasn't been released yet so students still have time to get their taxes in.
- The May Revise usually happens after the collection of taxes on April 15, but since the taxes have been extended to July 15, the State cannot properly review the taxes.

- **COVID-19**

- A warning for this week was put out for citizens to stay put for the next week or so-even for the grocery store
- If you need something, have it delivered and make sure to clean the items before coming back home.
- Face masks are now required in public.
- These next few weeks are critical for our health and future.

- **Graduation**

- We know it's important, we want to assure that if we can't do it June 9th, we will have a virtual ceremony

Q & A

Q: I'm so confused about our financial aid, when will it be distributed?

A: The second distribution for Financial Aid is scheduled for Wednesday, April 22nd.

Q: For the \$500 do you have to be a full-time student?

A: Yes, you need to be full time in order to qualify for the grant

Q: I received an email about my graduation petition being accepted, how do I obtain it?

A: Please email this question to hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu to get that question answered.

Q: With the free laptops when do we find out if we have been accepted?

A: You will likely be contacted by the district in the next day or two.

Q: The parking permit would be good for the WHOLE fall semester?

A: Yes, for the entire semester

Q: Thanks for giving information about 4th semester nursing students. Do you know if Healthcorps hours also count for 3rd semester? I'm in third but I've been accepted into Healthcorps.

A: I'm not sure but you can reach out to the Nursing Department at LACC to inquire.

Q: Which adobe programs are now available?

A: I'm not sure exactly which adobe programs are available.

Q: My question is, if already I applied for a computer, when will I receive an answer, and have my classes already started?

A: The district is centralized on how they are distributing the Chromebooks. I'm hoping that you all will get notified today or tomorrow that the Chromebooks are on their way to you. From my understanding the District will be sending the Chromebooks via mail.

Q: I had one student ask me regarding the fall semester 2020, is possibly online until December 2020?

A: At this time, we are planning for all classes to be online in the summer. We're hoping to be back on campus by the Fall, but we cannot be sure.

Q: My mailing address is different from my permanent address, who do I contact [to receive my Chromebook]?

A: Please contact hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu

Q: I'm a transfer student transferring to CSULA next fall. Are the university ambassadors still available for contact via online.

A: If you're referring to the CSULA ambassadors, I'm reasonably certain they are available but

not 100% certain. I will inquire about that and let you all know.

Q: How do we know if we are the lucky recipient of a chrome book?

A: If you are awarded a laptop scholarship , they will email you. Either way, they email you.

Q: Is it absolutely necessary to have a webcam on during lectures? If not, can you send out a memo to faculty stating so.

A: I would have to check on that with our VP of Academic Affairs but i will check on that.

Q: What is stimulus money?

A: Great Question. The federal government passed a multi trillion-dollar package of money that is sent out to various entities to help them keep going right now. Individuals would also receive money. If you have kids you get an additional amount and, small businesses can apply for forgivable loans to keep employees paid. They have already passed 3 packages and are working on a 4th. Remember, if you haven't filed your taxes be sure to do that as soon as possible.

Q: My internet cannot always support the stream for live video. I applied for the free/reduced fee internet, but I do not qualify. My instructors are asking that the webcams are always on. I can phone into class. This was not previously required. Who will pay my internet bill that I have to use my personal hotspot through my phone service?

A: That's something that you can apply for the grant through The Foundation to help cover that expense.. There are some programs that have some additional resources, reach out to hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu to see how we can help.

Q: What if you didn't work. How can I do a tax return? and will I get a stimulus package?

A: If you didn't have any earnings, you can file a tax report for earned income credit. File even if you didn't earn money so you can hopefully get stimulus money. I don't want to present myself as if I'm an expert, as I do have limited knowledge, I just want everyone to take advantage if they can.

Q: If you filed your taxes, it would automatically come via mail, right? There's nothing you have to do to apply for if you've already done taxes, right?

A: That is correct. However, you got your refund is how you'll get your stimulus money.

Q: Where do we apply for a laptop? I submitted the request for one through the student portal 2 weeks ago. Will they distribute the chrome books from those applications? Similar to previous question

A: If you applied for it several weeks ago, we've been waiting for a new stock of Chromebooks to come in which are coming in this week. You'll be notified once it's ready. Otherwise, what we were doing was having the student pick them up from us at the Bookstore, but students were still notified via email.

Q: I still haven't been credited for the 1 unit which I dropped. I haven't paid for the semester yet.

A: If you did not get a refund, request a refund of the fees that you paid. If you still owed outstanding fees, then you wouldn't have received a refund. Because I'm not sure of your exact situation, please email hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu for a more personalized answer.

Q: When you talk about Athletics, does that include Dance?

A: We're talking about any athletic teams we have. We're first starting with soccer, but i'm unsure if we have an official dance athletics team.

Q: Are OSS students who meet the criteria of full time students still eligible for the \$500? Can OSS students apply for \$500.00 grant with only 6 units?

A: Yes they are.

Q: Is 2018 Tax return OK for the stimulus package because I haven't filed for Income Tax yet, knowing that there is an extension to file this year?

A: I am not sure if they'll look at 2018 or not. I'm just sharing with you the information that was passed down to us.

Q: Can I apply for a LACC scholarship with under 12 units?

A: I don't know if there are any scholarships available through The Foundation for non-full-time students. I do know that the foundation scholarship deadline was last Sunday, and I'm

not sure if they will extend it. They have a variety of scholarships and I'm not sure what the criteria is for each. For the grant they are awarding now, you need to be a full-time student to qualify. If you're an OSS student you can have 6 units and still qualify.

Q: Do I need the tuition statement for the taxes of the last year semester ?

A: No, you do not

Q: When is the enrollment for the second summer session 2020?

A: The schedule is coming out a week from Monday. So Monday, April 20th. Students can begin registering Monday, May 4th.

Q: Where can I get the form of the tuition statement of the last semester 2019?

A: You can apply on your student portal. If it's not here, you can make a request via hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu

Q: So, are we required to have webcams now even though it was not previously required?

A: You are not supposed to be required to have anything additional for doing the remote online classes.

Q: How can I file a complaint against my professor

A: You can do that through the Department Chair or Dean. Every department is listed on the website.

Q: My parents cannot do the taxes because they do not have the form from LACC the tuition statement of the last year of 2019

A: You can locate the form on your student portal.