



# Student Town Hall

07 May 2020 / 12:30 PM / Zoom Meeting

## Updates

- **Announcements**

- Congressman Adam Schiff will be attending Wednesdays Town Hall – May 13, 2020
  - i. We will have a new zoom link available to increase the meeting capacity
- Financial Aid and EW
  - i. We are still following up on rather or not students would have to pay back financial aid if they petitioned for an EW
- Students asking about additional aid
  - i. We cannot have food banks on campus at this time, but i have been sending resources about where you all can find food banks and additional resources around the city

- **COVID-19**

- Phase 2 Opening
  - i. This will include opening small businesses such as clothing stores, flower shops, and sporting goods to help revive the economy
  - ii. This also includes different activities such as trails, hikes, and horseback riding as long as everyone is still practicing social distancing
  - iii. All of the businesses that are opening will have curbside delivery only, no in-store shopping.
  - iv. We, as a campus, still cannot meet up
- Classes that were not able to be completed at home for the Spring Semester will receive first priority when we are able to return to campus.
  - i. We will still have to wear masks at all times (except eating and drinking, which will be done separately and alone)

- **Resources**

- CARES Act funding given by the Federal Government requires that 50% of the total funding goes directly to students
  - i. We have received the first 50% of the money that has to go directly to students. So, we have received 25% of the total funds.
  - ii. The funds will hit your student Mobile One card by tomorrow and will go to Pell Grant eligible students.
  - iii. If you did not receive a Pell Grant, you will not be getting the funds in this first round.
  - iv. We are now going through a process to identify how to distribute the rest of the funds. We are working with the Federal Government to see what makes a student eligible to receive the funds.
- Please remember to send us any questions about resources to [hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu) and check your newsletter for links and resources as well.
- **Devices for Students**
  - We received the approval from the Board of Trustees to order more devices for those students who were awarded the Chromebooks
  - We will be calling/emailing/texting those who were on the list of awardees of the chromebooks, who are yet to receive them, to verify their address.
  - We sent out thousands of devices and many were returned due to us not having the correct address
  - You should have your Chromebook early next week if your address is verified by tomorrow.
- **Courses**
  - Summer Registration started on Monday, May 4, 2020.
  - Open registration will begin soon, so please register on your appointed day and time.
  - We anticipate that our classes will fill up, and we offered more classes this summer for this reason.
  - Fall Registration
    - i. All classes will be offered off campus and will be either remote or online
    - ii. The faculty will be doing lots of training over the summer to make them better equipped to teach online
    - iii. The Fall schedule will be posted on Friday, May 29th
- **2020: Resilient Times for Brilliant Minds**
  - It is a virtual recognition, this is NOT a graduation

- We do not know if the actual in person ceremony will be in the Fall because we do not know if we will be able to gather in large groups.
- If the ceremony does not take place in the Fall, next June we will have a combined graduation ceremony with the class of 2020 and 2021.

## Q:A

Q: What is the CARES act? Are the CARES act and Pell grant separate?

A: In order to receive the first distribution of money from the CARES Act, you have to have been in receipt of a Pell Grant. The CARES Act and Pell Grants are separate.

Q: How will we purchase cap & gowns? are they going to send us the cap and gowns, or we need to pick up?

A: Cap and Gowns will be available for purchase on the bookstore website and will be mailed to you. If you have a financially restricted to purchase your cap and gown email the [hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu) and let us know so that we can assist you.

Q: How do we know if we are on the honor roll or the recipient of any award?

A: We are in the process of awarding scholarships through the Foundation, you will be notified, and a check will be mailed to you. You should receive it within the next two weeks. I will connect with the Student Life department on how the Honors awards are distributed.

Q: I received an email from the financial aid this morning. They reviewed my academic record and said that I attempted 75% of the number of units required for the academic program. Do I still have eligibility for the financial aid for summer 2020?

A: Please go through the Cranium Cafe and chat with the Financial Aid department, or send your question through [hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu).

Q: I am not able to register for my summer classes. What is an email address where I can contact a person who could help me?

A: You can either go to Canvas and access Cranium Cafe or email [hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu).

Q: Is there a way to get the full 365 Microsoft Office version on these Chromebooks? It only allows us to use the web/online version, which does not allow people to use Word as they need it?

- A: Some of the chromebooks have limitations. I am not sure i can answer that. Please reach out to [hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu) for further assistance.
- Q: Does emergency withdrawal (EW) count if you are suffering a loss? I need to withdraw from a class, but this is my last chance to pass this class.
- A: The EW will not count against you. If you need to withdraw you can. This attempt does not count.
- Q: Do we have to pay for the separate (current) semester before we enroll for summer 2020?
- A: If you have outstanding fees, it will prevent you from registering. Please contact the business office for help with fee holds. Once the hold is removed you have to register right away, or the hold will revert back.
- Q: When will we know if our graduation petition has been approved?
- A: I am not sure, but I will follow up and provide an answer in tomorrow's Newsletter.
- Q: What about the Southwest Bernard Osher Scholarship and Ralphs gift card?
- A: The Ralphs gift cards were awarded to the students who had applied before. This last round went to those students. Once that list is exhausted they will go to the new list.
- Q: We will receive our degrees prior the ceremony ?
- A: No, nor do you receive it at the ceremony. They are received once all grades are posted for the term and grades are verified. They are usually received in August.
- Q: When will the last financial aid distribution be for Spring 2020 please?
- A: I am not sure. Please go into Cranium Cafe and ask the Financial Aid department or send an email to [hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu).
- Q: Can i receive my ADT (Associate Degree/Transfer) and not attend the grad. at spring 2021
- A: Yes, you will receive your degree before the graduation in Spring 2021. At graduation you get a diploma cover. Your degree is conferred once your grades are completed and verified, then you will be issued your diploma.
- Q: The book grant from EOPS expires May 8th, will it be extended since some students just received their voucher this week?
- A: The book grant has been extended to May 15th

- Q: Will the part time Dean's honors list students be awarded on the virtual recognition day?
- A: Dean's list Honors and the Virtual Ceremony are separate honors. Please email [hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu) to request a Dean's list certificate to be sent to you.
- Q: I am still waiting for my EW refund for 1 unit. Four weeks ago, they told me it would be 1-2 weeks.
- A: Please email [hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu)
- Q: What is the required GPA to be eligible for the Dean's list ?
- A: The required GPA for Honors is 3.5.
- Q: Generally, I have not received any financial support related to covid-19 even though I was eligible and applied for many. So, my question is, what criteria does the college use to decide on the recipients of the financial grants, including today's \$300.
- A: Today's \$300 is for students who have received Pell grants. The LACC Foundation gave grants to students that had criteria to determine eligibility. You can reach out to the foundation and ask your question or email [hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:hotline-students@lacitycollege.edu)
- Q: I have gotten many different answers from Financial Aid and Admissions, but the last answer was that I need to repay my Pell Grant because I did the EW. Who can I contact to help me?
- A: I am still in the process of following up on that and will provide an update as soon as one is given.
- Q: When will the LACC Library be open to return books?
- A: The bookstore will not be open until we can go back to campus. You can mail the book back if you wish, however you will not be fined if you do not return your books during this time.
- Q: How long will it take to receive our degrees after the semester is over?
- A: It will take a few weeks once your final grades are evaluated. If you have an urgent need to get it soon you can notify the college and we can work with you.
- Q: I filed a graduation petition, but I requested it for graduating (being class of 2021). should I contact admissions to follow up on my petition in early spring semester?
- A: Absolutely. Please reach out to Admissions and Records as soon as possible so that they can assist you.