

COVID-19: Updated UCSF Policies and Town Hall

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To: All UCSF Students

Dear UCSF Students,

As the circumstances of the COVID-19 public health challenge evolve, there have been a number of important updates to UCSF's policies. I will continue to share them with you, to help us all stay current on important guidance for our community.

In his message to the UCSF community on March 17, 2020, Chancellor Hawgood mentioned the following updates, and I wanted to ensure everyone had seen them. If you haven't had the opportunity, [read the Chancellor's message](#) to learn about the recently issued "shelter in place" public health order, what it means for UCSF, and how the actions we started taking last week support and are in alignment with the directive.

I would also encourage you to join Chancellor Hawgood and Mark Laret for a virtual UCSF town hall meeting on Friday, March 20, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. via Zoom. An invitation is forthcoming.

Finally, I want to address some discouraging media accounts of xenophobia and racism in the wake of this public health crisis. These stories present a stark contrast to what I see in the UCSF community's incredible response to COVID-19. As we carry on with our lives and our work, I encourage all of us to continue holding up the values that bind us as a community, the very same values that are at the core of our mission to provide care to all, without discrimination.

[Updated UCSF Policies and Guidance, as of March 17, 2020](#)

- **Large events:** All non-essential events and gatherings shall be cancelled or postponed, and event organizers must prioritize alternatives such as teleconferencing. Gatherings essential to operations are exempt.
- **Library closure:** The Library is closed until further notice. Collections and essential services will be available remotely.
- **Shuttle hours:** UCSF's shuttles will operate on a reduced schedule from March 18 through April 3.
- **Deliveries:** Orders should be limited to mission critical products.
- **Remote IT access:** IT has created guidance around working remotely, and requests that all remote workers use VPN only when needed.
- **New UC Employee Leave Policy:** The University of California has issued updated guidance that outlines expanded paid administrative leave to address employees' needs during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Travel:** All non-essential university-sponsored travel, both domestic and international, is restricted. In addition, we strongly recommend avoiding all non-essential personal travel, both domestic and international, as part of a broader effort to limit the transmission of COVID-19 from place to place.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Watkins

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