Welcome to the latest COVID-19 update with information about how the University of California is responding and adapting to the pandemic, as well as campus, health center and national laboratory news.

Ongoing Challenges
We are thankful for the emergency legislation that has been signed into law, but know that our community won’t fully recover without additional investments in research, health care and education.

- On June 22, we shared a letter with your office from then-UC President Janet Napolitano and the 10 University chancellors outlining UC’s requests as related to the fourth COVID-19 emergency legislation that Congress is working on. Specifically, the letter outlines the priorities as related to education, research, and tax and financing issues, including the need for additional support for states and territories. >> Read More
- On June 23, we shared a letter with your office from Executive Vice President of UC Health Carrie Byington highlighting several health care financing, higher education and workforce priorities that are critical to academic health centers like UC Health for inclusion in the next COVID-19 emergency legislation. >> Read More

Preparedness and Response
Critical operations continue at all UC campus and system locations, and our health centers continue to provide vital services to their communities.

- The science is in: Masks save lives and can help us safely reopen our communities. UC researchers help explain what you need to know about wearing a mask. >> Read More
- Looking for a guide to some of the most common COVID-19 mistakes and the science that explains them? UC Davis experts have you covered. >> Read More
- Creating through crises: Fifteen UC Riverside faculty members and staff offer tips on keeping a creative spirit in the age of COVID-19. >> Read More
- UCSF infectious disease specialists and community partners are launching a pilot program to provide COVID-19 testing at a central transit hub in San Francisco’s Mission District. >> Read More
- UC Irvine recently launched a health equity contact tracing workshop for Orange County Health Care Agency staff and UC Irvine community members. >> Read More
- UC Santa Cruz and the Community Foundation Santa Cruz County are partnering to expand access to COVID-19 testing, with campus researchers testing 200-400 samples every week in a collective effort to ensure the area’s low-income and vulnerable residents have access to rapid testing. >> Read More
- UC Davis Health, in partnership with Adventist Health Lodi Memorial, has launched the Lodi hospital’s first telehealth intensive care unit services that will allow the hospital to meet more patient care needs while safely increasing its overall hospital capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic. >> Read More
- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory has created multiple licensed technologies that are being utilized to create products that help fight against COVID-19. >> Read More
Student and Campus Life
UC is committed to ensuring continuity and providing resources for its campus and lab communities.

• UC Merced’s summer research program continues to serve students remotely – more than 100 students participated in the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Center’s Summer Undergraduate Research Institute to develop critical research skills and prepare for graduate school. >> Read More

• Physicians at UC San Diego Health recently launched a six-part COVID-19 Grand Rounds Series (Wednesdays at 7:30 am PT) that includes guests from the medical community and focuses on epidemiology, vaccine and treatment controversies, psychosocial factors and other topics related to the pandemic. >> Read More

• What new UC Berkeley students need to know about fall 2020: A panel of campus staff discussed the new student experience in a recent live streamed conversation. >> Read More

Research
UC researchers continue to advance understanding and develop new tools to address and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Below are highlights of some of the efforts taking place:

• Experts at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory are working together to develop a platform that consolidates COVID-19 data sources that can later be utilized as a unified library to make COVID-19 predictions. >> Read More

• A recent UCLA report documents the disparate economic impact the pandemic has had on the Asian American labor force. >> Read More

• UC San Diego computer scientist Pavel Pevzner has been awarded a grant through the NSF’s EArly-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) program to investigate immune system genes in humans, bats and other mammals and identify successful antibody responses against SARS-COV-2. >> Read More

• UC Merced’s Community and Labor Center recently released a study that indicates a link between low-wage work with the spread of COVID-19, concluding that policymakers must also innovate health and safety reforms focused on the workplace. >> Read More

• Researchers at UC Santa Barbara received an NSF Rapid Response Research (RAPID) grant for their development of a novel forecasting model that provides public officials and residents timely COVID-19 predictions at a more localized level. >> Read More

• A new report released by UC Berkeley’s Center for the Study of Child Care Employment reveals the devastating economic and human impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on California’s child care centers. >> Read More

• A Los Alamos National Laboratory research team is focusing on host proteins that help the SARS-CoV-2 virus enter cells in the body and identifying already-approved FDA drugs that prevent viral entry. >> Read More

Learn More About UC’s Coronavirus Response Efforts

If you have any questions about this update or other issues, please contact Chris Harrington with UC’s Office of Federal Governmental Relations.