



ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR
COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

DATE: March 9, 2020

TO: Chancellors, Superintendents, Presidents, and Accreditation Liaison Officers

FROM: Dr. Stephanie Droker, President

SUBJECT: ACCJC Support of Member Institutions Responding to COVID-19

On March 4, 2020, The United States Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education released "[Guidance for Interruptions of Study Related to Coronavirus \(COVID-19\).](#)"

ACCJC is here to support our member institutions in navigating the impacts of this outbreak on your student populations. Many colleges are imposing closures or self-quarantines and moving from face-to-face instruction to online or out-of-class work options. Per the newly released Department of Education guidelines, ACCJC will help facilitate any changes you make to accommodate cancellations and closures with expanded online or correspondence classes this semester.

We are waiving review and technology requirements for distance learning and correspondence education at institutions affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. Distance education instructors must maintain regular, substantive communication with students; specifics about these communications can be found in the Office of Postsecondary Education's release.

Please feel free to contact your ACCJC staff liaison should you have any questions about these requirements. ACCJC will continue to monitor information coming from both the U.S. Department of Education and Federal Student Aid and communicate any developments to our member institutions.

On behalf of the Commission, we thank you for your continued commitment to academic quality in higher education and extend our full support and assistance at this time.

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