

Spring 2022 Update Town Hall Meeting

January 6-7, 2022



California State
University

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Main Takeaways

1. We are moving most classes to virtual delivery for the first two weeks of the semester (January 24-February 6).
2. We are moving the [CSU required booster vaccination](#) deadline for eligible students, administrators, and confidential employees from February 28 to February 6, to coincide with the first week of mostly in-person classes.
3. In-person staffing for student services and other campus functions through the first two weeks of the semester will be navigated by managers and their teams.

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Context

- Ongoing consultation with VCPH and Chancellor's Office. Meetings with campus leaders including Senate Officers, Staff Council Executive Board, and Student Government
- Anticipated peak of new cases week of January 24; sharp decline expected after the surge
- Increased focus on severity and hospitalization rates rather than number of cases – based on initial data
- Projected contribution of Omicron infections to individual and herd immunity and eventual movement from pandemic to endemic
- At the same time, we need to be thinking about our vulnerable populations, and Delta is still in play
- *Also, positive cases on campus require comprehensive response as required by CalOSHA – regardless of severity
 - Cleaning within 24 hours; contact tracing and notification protocols; quarantine and isolation requirements; etc.

Context

- While severity may be less (although there is some debate on this point), higher number of cases adds significant level of disruption to the learning environment
- Level of disruption going virtual for the first two weeks v. bringing everyone back as planned and navigating increased number of cases
 - Impact on student engagement and success?
- Fall 2021 return v. Spring 2022 return
 - August 2021: Delta spike; peak showed 7-day average in VC at 320 cases; 14-day % of new cases - vaccinated individuals 20-24%
 - January 2022: As of January 5, 7-day average in VC at 1196 cases; as of January 3, 14-day % of new cases - vaccinated individuals 41%; overall hospitalization rate is still very low among vaccinated individuals at .05%
- Testing clinics on campus this week – increased positivity rate

Decision #1

Move most classes to virtual delivery for the first two weeks of the semester.

- Goals:
 - Reduce population density during Omicron peak
 - Reduce positive case rates and attending disruptions necessitated by mitigation and safety protocols
- Process to determine which classes will meet in person
- Managers and their teams to navigate evolving need for in-person services

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Decision #2

Move CSU-required booster vaccination deadline for eligible students, administrators, and confidential employees from February 28 to February 6.

- Booster vaccine supplies in Ventura County plentiful to meet revised deadline
- Earlier deadline coincides with the first week of mostly in-person classes beginning the week of February 7
- Negotiations with unions for requiring the booster vaccine of represented employees will be conducted centrally by the CSU

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Decision #3

Finalize the process for allowing students, administrators, and confidential employees to upload documentation of their booster vaccine by February 6 or when they become eligible for the booster.

- Booster eligibility introduces a new complication to Fall 2021 procedures
- Directions for uploading booster documentation coming soon
 - Represented employees: Voluntary submission while negotiations underway
- Approved exemptions from Fall 2021 are still in effect
- Testing requirements and enforcement

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Moving Forward

- Instructions forthcoming for uploading booster documentation
- Re-entry testing required for students in housing
- Individuals with approved exemptions required to test weekly; previously-approved exemptions remain in effect
- Tracking and compliance logistics and infrastructure
- Provost and Deans in collaboration with faculty to determine in-person classes/activity the first two weeks of the semester
- Determining level of required in-person operations to support students on campus (Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, BFA)
- Update Spring 2022 webpage and FAQ's

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Moving Forward

- On-campus testing: January 10-13; 18-21; 25-27; with continued testing into February
- On-campus booster vaccination clinics
 - Thursday, January 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 - Thursday, February 17 and Thursday, March 10 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
 - Additional clinics TBD, up to twice weekly in lead-up to February 7
 - Both Moderna and Pfizer doses available
 - Location: El Dorado Hall
- Behavioral Mitigation:
 - Booster requirement
 - KN-95 masks
 - Review of safety protocols from Fall 2021 with EH&S and VCPH
- Please stay home and get tested if symptomatic

Q&A

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