

DIVISION OF BUSINESS & FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

COVID-19 BRIEFING - UPDATE

December 16, 2020

Unit: Public Safety

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ACTION: Request for Cabinet's approval of an update to the recommended strategy for continued in-person instruction, originally adopted for the fall 2020 semester. The update is specifically related to classrooms, lab spaces, etc. which have been potentially contaminated by an infected person.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY ISSUE(S):

CSU Channel Islands (CSUCI) started its Fall 2020 semester in a mostly virtual learning environment, with limited exceptions for in-person instruction on campus. Detailed plans are in place to support these in-person activities while controlling the spread of COVID-19 within the CSUCI community. The University's plans have been reviewed by Ventura County Public Health and approved by the CSU Chancellor. Individual safety plans for in-person instruction have been reviewed and approved by CSUCI's Environmental Health & Safety department. Universities across the country, including campuses within the CSU system, have experienced significant COVID-19 outbreaks in their communities since the start of the fall semester and have been forced to revert back to virtual learning environments.

Per the prior recommendation to Cabinet in the September 9, 2020 briefing, in an effort to support the continuation of limited in-person instruction on the CSUCI campus, while controlling the spread of COVID-19 as students, faculty and staff become infected, the University adopted the following as a baseline for decision-making:

- If any one student, faculty or staff attending an in-person class tests positive for COVID-19, the in-person class shall be suspended and held virtually during the infected person's 14-day incubation period. If no other individuals participating in the in-person class become infected during this 14-day period, the in-person class may then resume as scheduled.
- Any classroom or lab space potentially contaminated by the infected person will be immediately isolated and sanitized. The space will remain inaccessible for a period of 7 days from the date of exposure. Any other classes that utilize this space will either identify an alternate location for in-person instruction or pivot to virtual instruction until the space can be repopulated again. (*See update below*).
- If a different person in another class tests positive for COVID-19, then that individual's in-person class will be suspended and held virtually for 14 days and that space will be

secured, sanitized, and will remain inaccessible for 7 days from the date of exposure. (See *update below*)

- If at any point within any 14-day period, the combined number of students, faculty or staff who test positive for COVID-19 exceeds 2% of the student population approved for in-person instruction (2% of 814 students for the fall 2020 semester = 16), all in-person instruction on campus will cease and immediately transition to virtual instruction for the remainder of the semester.

This protocol was not applied to Student Housing because of the effective lodging arrangements in place to protect resident students from COVID-19.

CURRENT UPDATE:

Based on updated guidance from CDC and Ventura County Public Health, an exposed area(s) (classroom, lab space, restroom) that has been used by an infected person on campus no longer needs to remain inaccessible for a period of 7 days. Instead, a potentially contaminated space should be immediately closed off and if possible, outside doors and windows should be opened to increase air circulation in the area. After waiting a minimum of 24 hours, the space may be cleaned and disinfected by trained staff using personal protective equipment following applicable CDC guidance. After the space has been properly disinfected, it may be re-opened for use. If more than 7 days have passed since the infected person visited the campus, no additional cleaning or disinfecting is necessary.

RECOMMENDATION:

Update the campus decision points for continued in-person instruction as follows:

- Any classroom or lab space potentially contaminated by the infected person will be immediately closed off and if possible, outside doors and windows will be opened to increase air circulation in the area. After waiting a minimum of 24 hours, the space may be cleaned and disinfected by trained staff using personal protective equipment following applicable CDC guidance. After the space has been properly disinfected, it may be re-opened for use. If more than 7 days have passed since the infected person visited the campus, no additional cleaning or disinfecting is necessary. Any other classes that utilize the space while it is closed off will either identify an alternate location for in-person instruction or pivot to virtual instruction until the space can be repopulated again.
- If a different person in another class tests positive for COVID-19, then that individual's in-person class will be suspended and held virtually for 14 days and that space will be secured, sanitized, and will remain inaccessible for a minimum of 24 hours in accordance with the standard above.

Other decision points previously approved will remain in place.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTS: N/A