

April 13, 2020

We hope this weekend was a time for renewal and reflection.

If you have a question

As always, for academic concerns, talk to your instructors. They care about your progress, and they know what you are going through because they're on the same journey. Working together, you can be successful.

Another good resource is virtualsupport@pima.edu, where you can ask about tutoring, advising and a host of other resources.

For questions about payments, refunds or other matters regarding your student account, email bursaronline@pima.edu; include your Student ID number and a phone number if you would prefer a call instead of an email response. To review your student account: MyPima > Students tab > Register and Pay > MyAccountManager.

And pima.edu/covid19 contains resources to help during the pandemic.

Grading options

We know this semester has stressed you and your family like no other because of COVID-19. You might be wondering which grading option is best for you, given your circumstances. Here is information to help you understand the implications of your choices.

We want you to keep striving!

We strongly encourage that you continue to attend classes this term if you can, and take advantage of our support resources to help resolve challenges you're facing.

Incomplete ("I" grade)

If you are passing your classes, unable to complete this Spring, but want to complete coursework in the near future, you can work with your instructor to receive an Incomplete ("I") grade. There is no additional charge to continue working on Incompletes.

Withdrawal ("W" grade)

The Withdrawal deadline for 16- and 15-week classes has been extended through April 14.

Withdrawing does entail consequences:

- W grades count negatively against your completion percentage, which could affect your [Academic Standing](#)
- W grades will be permanent on your academic transcript

Plans are in progress to provide a tuition credit for the 2020-21 academic year for students who had to withdraw. Instead of a voucher (as previously reported), the tuition credit will automatically be applied based on Spring 2020 withdrawal data. Please contact an advisor or email bursaronline@pima.edu for more information.

Summer School 2020

Registration begins today. [Class schedules are online.](#) Here are the definitions of choices under the Method dropdown menu:

- **Hybrid:** Students receive instruction online and in the classroom with reduced time
- **In Person:** Students are required to attend lecture and/or lab on specified days and times
- **Online:** Students complete class activities online without specified meeting times
- **Self Paced In Person:** Students work on-campus each week at their own pace, in the room defined in the class schedule, with faculty guidance.
- **Self Paced Independent:** Students work off-campus at their own pace, with study materials prepared by College faculty.
- **Virtual:** Students attend online meetings on specified days and times and complete additional work independent

New scholarship announced

The Ethnic, Gender and Transborder Studies Virtual Summit is April 28 from 9a-4p. The theme is "Healing Community in Coronatimes." [Read the flier for details.](#)

The summit includes a scholarship contest. There are three contest categories: Essay, Creative Writing, and Visual Arts. Top finishers will receive scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year, which begins with the Fall semester:

- First place: 30 credit hours
- Second place: 12 credit hours
- Third place: 6 credit hours
- An additional award in Visual Arts: 3 credit hours.

Deadline is April 20. Details at pima.academicworks.com.

Free online success webinars

Pima is offering a series of free webinars on a variety of student success topics:

- Intro to video calls (Google Meet)
- D2L overview
- Skills for online learning
- Intro to Virtual Classroom in D2L (Bongo)
- Communicating with classmates and instructors
- How to post and respond to D2L discussions
- Coping strategies
- Maximizing library and tutoring resources

For dates and times, and to register, [click this Google Form.](#)

Lower-cost Internet

Please read all the details of these offers:

- Cox Communications offers options to new customers. Visit [Connect2Compete](#) to find out more and see if you qualify
- Comcast is offering low-cost internet and, potentially, free service for 60 days. Visit [Internet Essentials](#) for more info

Free parking lot Wifi

We know many students have challenges regarding Internet access. Free Wifi is available in the West Campus parking lot Mondays-Fridays from 8am-5pm. Be sure to bring your Pima ID.

We are developing similar resources for our other campuses, starting with Downtown. We will keep you posted.

Poetry!

April is #NationalPoetryMonth, and our Libraries are hosting free virtual readings on April 17 and April 24 by Tucson-based poets. Contact Alexis Kopkowski at akopkowski@pima.edu for details.

[Image of three garden stones with words: Be Safe. Have Hope. Be Aware.]

In closing, a Pima Arts student summed things up beautifully and eloquently with this front-yard message to passers-by.

With gratitude,

Dr. Dolores Durán-Cerda,
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

David Doré, Ed.D., M.B.A.
President of Campuses and Executive Vice Chancellor