

Date: Mon, Mar 30, 2020 at 4:47 PM
Subject: COVID-19 March 30 Chancellor's Update
To: <Pima-All@pima.edu>

Sent on behalf of Chancellor Lee Lambert

Today's topics: No access to facilities after March 31, economic stimulus, and moving forward together

Colleagues,

Many of our students embarked on a new path today, thanks to the hard work and creativity of our faculty, staff, and administrators. The College today resumed instruction for many in-person classes in a virtual environment. Like many colleges and universities, Pima quickly took the initiative to reimagine education in a way that enriches our students while protecting their health and safety.

Please remember that March 31 is the hard deadline to access a College facility. Starting April 1, no one will have access and Pima ID cards will not open doors. This is to allow for a deep cleaning of all facilities. Police, payroll, facilities and other predetermined essential services will remain onsite as necessary to perform critical functions.

You also heard that both President Trump and Arizona Gov. Ducey have extended physical distancing protocols through April 30. We are reviewing our dates to ensure we remain consistent with state and local municipalities.

In good news, we were pleased to learn that institutions of higher education were a major part of the CARES Act, the economic stimulus package. The allocation of resources are being provided to help support students and Colleges during this transitional phase. I will keep you informed once Pima's allocation has been officially announced.

Further, the speed with which we pivoted should put to rest the tired notion that higher education cannot respond quickly to a changing landscape. We will continue to be put to the test as we enter a new phase in our response to the existential threat posed by COVID-19.

Please remember it's OK not to have the answers. However, it's essential that we be willing to work together to find the best solutions for our students and community. Compassion is another necessity. So is listening, for we know that a good idea can come from anywhere.

In closing, I'd like to pass along the words of poet Antonio Machado, which Provost Dr. Dolores Duran-Cerda shared with our students:

*Walker, there is no path.
The path is made by walking.*

By walking the path together, we can get through this.

Sincerely,
Lee D. Lambert,
Chancellor