

Chancellor's Memo: 2022 Work Schedules

Chancellor <chancellor@nocccd.edu>

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Dear Colleagues – Many employees have asked about the District's return-to-campus plans for 2022. As directed by the NOCCCD Board of Trustees—barring any new health directives from the state or CDC—all employees are expected to resume pre-pandemic operations beginning January 3, 2022. While not all classes will be taught on campus, it is the expectation of the Board that there will be a return to regular operations for employees, students, and community members who interact with Cypress College, Fullerton College, NOCE, and District Services.

Here are some of the considerations that have influenced this direction:

- The state of California has been declared open by Governor Newsom and the numbers of COVID-19 cases and deaths in our county are steadily declining. In addition to businesses being open, all of our neighboring K-12 school districts and local universities are also 100% open.
- The NOCCCD Board of Trustees implemented the vaccine mandate to ensure the best operating conditions for all of our sites. Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine, in conjunction with on-site face covering directives and other protection procedures, is the best way to safeguard our campuses.
- Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, campus enrollment has decreased by over 10%. While surveys show that students are still interested in taking some online or hybrid courses, respondents also state that they want to come back to campus to access learning and services. Our students are asking us to be open for instruction and to serve them, so that is what we will do.

Your Immediate Management Supervisor (IMS) will be in contact with you to discuss your work schedule, but it is the District's expectation that employees will be required to perform work on-site for their regularly-assigned schedule, unless granted an accommodation from Human Resources. Faculty assignments for Spring 2022 have been finalized, and the course schedule is out now.

Update to NOCCCD Testing Protocols

This week, the Board of Trustees gave additional clarification regarding faculty teaching remotely and testing protocols. The Board agreed that for the remainder of 2021 and Spring 2022, unvaccinated faculty who are authorized to work 100% remotely are not required to test weekly for COVID-19. This will ensure that faculty will not be required to come to campus just to take a test. Please note, however, that these 100% remote faculty are still expected to adhere to the NOCCCD vaccine mandate, and must either upload their vaccine information or be approved for a medical or religious exemption by November 1, 2021 to be considered in compliance. If faculty working 100% remotely with an approved exemption need to access District facilities, they will be required to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours before their visit.

Beginning January 3, 2022, all employees must be in compliance with the NOCCCD vaccine mandate or face appropriate disciplinary action. This means that all employees must either have uploaded their vaccine information into MyGateway, or have received a medical or religious exemption from Human Resources. This action can be completed at www.nocccd.edu/vaccineprogram. Weekly testing will only be allowed for those employees with an approved exemption.

Thank you for your support and cooperation during this time.

Fred Williams, Interim Chancellor

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