

Safer Return Update to the Academic Senate
March 8, 2023

Situational Awareness



Los Angeles County is in the **Low Community** Level of Transmission.

County	CDC Community Level (Low, Medium, High)	3/7/2023				
		New Cases Reported	Weekly Cases per 100K (7-Day Average)*	Positivity Rate (7-Day Rate)*	Current Hospitalizations*	% of Population Fully Vaccinated
Los Angeles	● Low	1,893***	16.7	5.29%***	649***	78.9%
Orange	● Low	188	13.1	7.7%	177	78.6%
San Bernardino	● Low	129	15.8	6.6%	128	64.1%
Riverside	● Low	133	15.1	7.5%	99	65.5%
Statewide		2,760	14.3	6.5%	2,506	78.7%

Campus Indicators	3/8/2023
On-Campus Vaccination Rate <i>Vaccination rate for enrolled students, faculty and staff who come to campus; percentage excludes individuals with a medical and/or religious exemption.</i>	71.8%
Public Health Testing Positivity Rate <i>7-day average of PCR tests through the campus public health testing program.</i>	3.34%

Key Points of Note

- Los Angeles County remains in the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Protection’s (CDC) Low COVID-19 Community Level for the seventh consecutive week.

Key Updates

1. Policy Changes and Updates

- The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to end the County Emergency order on March 31, 2023.** The LA County Department of Public Health will release further information about which regulations will expire and which will be extended at the end of the month.
- California COVID-19 Emergency Declaration officially ended on February 28, 2023.** This change will end all pandemic-related State Executive orders issued by the Governor. This, however, does not affect local emergency and public health orders of the local jurisdiction.
- California Department of Public will eliminate [the mask requirement](#) in Healthcare and other Indoor High-Risk Settings beginning April 3, 2023.** These settings include adult and senior care centers, homeless shelters, long-term & short-term care facilities, and correctional facilities. It is anticipated that Los Angeles County would adopt this change and eliminate the mask requirement at our campus' Student Health Center. The [vaccination requirement](#) for healthcare workers will also end with this change.
- The California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board voted to adopt non-emergency COVID-19 prevention regulations on December 15, 2022.** These regulations took effect on February 3, 2023 and will remain in effect for two years after the effective date, except for the recordkeeping subsections that will remain in effect for three years. [Cal/OSHA COVID-19 regulations](#) still require employers to provide testing at no cost, investigate and respond to COVID-19 cases, and notify affected employees of COVID-19 in the workplace.
- The University must adhere to the strictest order issued at the county, state or federal level.** Legislative reporting and notification requirements are currently in place at least through January 1, 2024 and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 regulations are currently in place through February 2025. While a number of state and federal declarations are slated to end, there is no immediate change to campus health and safety protocols.

2. Vaccinations

- a. Safer Return will continue to host pop-up clinics throughout the Spring Semester at the Welcome Center (SSB 121 – Room 1004) on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The clinic has also begun to offer flu vaccines at the pop-up clinics beginning February 14, 2023. Students and employees can pre-register for COVID and/or flu vaccines via the links posted on the [CPP Safer Return Vaccine Webpage](#).
- b. Students and employees can continue to upload their vaccine information, including boosters, to [MyHealth portal](#).

3. Testing

- a. Students, faculty and staff continue to have access to PCR tests at no cost through our campus Public Health Testing Program. Locations and information on accessing testing vending machines can be found on the [CPP Safer Return Testing Webpage](#).
- b. Students and employees can get free antigen tests at the University Library, Welcome Center, and Care Center. As of February, over 400 antigen tests have been distributed.
- c. In the case that you have an antigen test that has been marked as expired The CDC has extended the expiration dates for a majority of FDA-approved antigen test by several months. To see if an at-home test kit is out of date, visit the [FDA's Authorized COVID-19 Vaccines Website](#) and look for the new extended expiration date.

Masking/PPE

- d. Masking has been downgraded to [individual preference](#) by LACDPH due to the low levels of transmission with the following exemptions: healthcare settings; if you have tested positive; or if you have been identified as a close contact. PPE, including higher grade masks, are available to students, faculty and staff at no cost. For more information on PPE, including where to find masks, visit the can continue to find distribution locations on the [Safer Return PPE webpage](#).

4. Safer Return Webinars/ Newsletter

- a. A Safer Return Newsletter will be sent out on Thursday, March 9, providing clarification on recent State, Local, and Federal Health order changes.
- b. We will also continue hosting the weekly Zoom Drop-In/Webinar on Thursdays at U-hour (12 p.m.). For more information, including Zoom links, visit the [CPP Safer Return Webinar webpage](#).

5. Additional Points of Note

- a. If faculty and students in a class receive a close contact notification requiring masking for 10 days (or otherwise instructed), faculty may forward and/or reiterate the masking requirements to their students. The masking requirement is issued by the LACDPH as part of their exposure management plan. Faculty can contact the Dean of Students Office if they have questions regarding adherence to the close contact masking requirement.
- b. As a reminder, if you are a close contact to someone who tested positive for COVID-19, you can continue to come to campus as long as you remain symptom-free and adhere to the masking requirements. We ask individuals to also test 3-5 after exposure and to report if they receive a positive result via the [COVID-19 Self-Report Form](#). Individuals who test positive or experience symptoms must remain off campus.

If you have questions or need additional information, visit <https://www.cpp.edu/safer-return/index.shtml> or email saferreturn@cpp.edu.