



# LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CITY / EAST / HARBOR / MISSION / PIERCE / SOUTHWEST / TRADE-TECHNICAL / VALLEY / WEST

## LACCD EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

### COVID-19 RECOVERY POLICY STATEMENT

### ATHLETICS & RETURN TO FACE-TO-FACE ACTIVITIES

REVISED DECEMBER 14, 2020

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) and its nine colleges support athletics programs, recognizing the value that these programs and sports activities bring to the student experience and the role of athletes in equity initiatives across the District. Athletics are an important part of college life, and in the personal/social development of student-athletes.

This Recovery Policy—posted June 15, 2020 and revised effective November 30—provides guidelines regarding the return to face-to-face activities of athletics programs and sports activities at LACCD's nine colleges as part of the District's multi-stage recovery plan. This Recovery Policy will remain in place until further notice and is subject to further revision.

#### **POLICY**

1. Guidance is expected to be provided by the District regarding the return to face-to-face activities of any intercollegiate sport affiliated with any LACCD institution. "Face-to-face" can be categorized as courses, competition, and/or work with athletic trainers.
2. Any return to active status for athletics and sports programs will follow the health and safety guidelines of the Los Angeles County Health Department (LACDPH) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).
3. The District is also adhering to the California Community College Athletic Association's Contingency Plan, which currently calls for a return of both fall and spring sports as early as January 2021. As announced on November 7, 2020 by the Chair of the CCCAA Board of Directors, "The Board of Directors reaffirmed following the Contingency Plan while also expressing that the plan is only a framework and final decisions to participate in competition will be left to institutions in consultation with their local health authorities. The Board also requested the COVID-19 Work Group determine opt-in/opt-out dates for schools to indicate participation for the spring while understanding that extenuating circumstances may arise that may lead institutions to opt out at later date." Additional guidance from the Southern California Football Association (SCFA) and/or other governance organizations also will be considered.
4. CDPH has provided its current final directives regarding the resumption of competitive sports, which recommends that counties with high levels of COVID-19 community transmission limit in-person courses. Until further notice, colleges and universities in Los Angeles County will not be able to resume all in-person academic instruction. Institutions may continue to offer in-person training and instruction only for essential workforce for required activities that cannot be accomplished through virtual learning. Competitive athletics and affiliated preparation programs are not considered essential.
5. Per the CDPH, collegiate sports may only proceed if in full compliance with the Specific Interim Guidance for Collegiate Athletics, <https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-higher-education--en.pdf>. At this time, LACCD does not have any ability to comply with the testing necessary as per the guidance. The District and its colleges will not proceed with in-person competitive sports until the District has a viable testing solution.



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6. All head coaches will receive their full stipends for the Fall 2020 semester and payment for any online conditioning courses successfully enrolled. Head coaches of Fall 2020 sports will need to complete the reporting form along with supporting documentation.
7. Stipends for Spring 2021 will be paid for coaches who engaged in activities set forth in the AFT collective bargaining agreement. Verification of duties performed in pre-season will be required by Human Resources to pay out the stipends via the level-pay system.
8. For walk-on assistant coaches:
  - a. Hiring of assistant coaches is at the discretion of each individual college, absent a district-wide hiring freeze.
  - b. Any assistant coach hired for 2020-21 will receive 30% of the existing stipend paid for pre-season activities. The remaining 70% of the stipend will be paid if/when the CCCAA makes a definitive statement about competition in Spring 2021 and if the LACDPH clears the colleges to bring back competitive sports.
9. Kinesiology Athletics Skills and Training, or Conditioning courses are not currently scheduled in-person for Winter/Spring 2021. While online courses may be offered at the discretion of the college, these courses will not be posted for in-person instruction until Department of Public Health guidelines give approval for community colleges to engage in activities necessary to prepare student athletes for competition.
10. Kinesiology Athletics Competition courses currently are not scheduled for Winter/Spring 2021 sessions. In-person conditioning courses will not be posted until the District has a viable testing solution in compliance with CDPH guidance noted above.
11. Competition courses will not be posted in the academic schedule until such time that a decision is made by the District regarding the return of sports.
12. To be included in the academic course schedule, all athletics-related courses must be capable of being taught and completed fully online or via remote instruction until the criteria outlining face-to-face activities are met.
13. The District's tiered recovery plan will include information on the tier that athletics can return to face-to-face activities, contingent on LACDPH orders and campus approval.
14. The return to face-to-face activities must be accompanied by a clear plan for each sport to address health and safety issues. Plans should include, but are not limited to:
  - Social distancing metrics
  - Use of personal protective equipment
  - Health screenings
  - Insurance
  - Sanitation
  - Engagement with athletic trainers
  - Testing and Cost estimates
15. Hiring of athletic and competition staff will be in accordance with [Article 14 of the Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement](#) and [HR Guide R-400](#).