

Feather River College

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Update to Students from President Trutna, March 24th 2020

Today, Feather River College made the decision to transition all spring 2020 classes to an online format for the remainder of the semester. This difficult decision comes amidst the evolving COVID situation and Governor Newsom's shelter-in-place directive. We realize that FRC is a special place and one of our strengths is the ability to provide each student with a small-college atmosphere and personal attention from faculty and staff who are dedicated to your success. Rest assured that these ideals still hold as our mission is to provide you with the best education possible. We can still be FRC, albeit from a virtual location.

- Spring Classes When classes resume after spring break, all instruction will occur online. Please
 communicate with your instructor for directions related to the full transition to online teaching. Online
 resources are being finalized that allow extended support as well as virtual laboratories for some
 courses. Look for more information to be released soon. Please ask or let us know if you have any
 difficulty accessing online instruction. Our goal is to keep your college education moving forward.
- <u>Student Support Services</u> we are currently developing a streamlined virtual support structure for all student services offices like TRiO, advising, EOPS, DSPS, financial aid, etc. Look for an announcement with an updated website that lists each available support service and how you can access these virtually.
- <u>Graduation</u> we have made the decision to not hold graduation as planned in May. Alternate plans are being discussed, and further decisions will be made as the situation evolves over the next month or so. Our ultimate goal is to honor each and every one of you who will graduate; how and where that will be accomplished is still undetermined at this time. FRC is also exploring other options to provide flexibility for students during this extraordinary semester.
- <u>Dormitories</u> FRC is developing a process for students to move out of the dorms. This will include refunds for the months of April and May for those who have already paid. A checkout process will be developed with a target date of two weeks from the end of spring break for most students to move out. For those students who cannot move out due to circumstances beyond your control, we are prepared to provide housing until the end of the semester or until the situation changes. Storage options may also be available.
- <u>Drops/Withdraws</u> Federal Financial Aid has issued new guidelines regarding students impacted due to the COVID disruption. This may alter guidelines for drops and withdraws, and how that impacts any refunds, if any. It is important to note that we strongly encourage any student thinking about dropping or withdrawing to contact an academic advisor or financial aid, as your decision may affect future financial aid eligibility, loan payback, transfer, graduation, and other related items.
- Mental Health I have asked Nick Maez to develop twice-a-week communication with students to help you cope with anxiety and provide mental health support. Nick is an excellent resource during this time of uncertainty; do not hesitate to reach out to him at nmaez@frc.edu.

In closing, know that we are all going through this situation together and everyone at FRC is dedicated to helping each and every student. We also have our home life with family and friends that need support. It seems that we hear a lot about strength and resilience in the world over the past few years. Never has this tested FRC like it has now. I am confident that we have the right people in the right places to build upon our strength as an institution during this challenging time and ensure your success as a student. Please contact anyone on campus if you need any assistance.

Kevin Trutna, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President
Feather River College