

Dear Coyotes:

The situation with the pandemic remains extremely fluid, and campus health and well-being is my primary concern. Therefore, with the resurgence of COVID and the Omicron variant in our region, and nationally, in consultation with campus leadership I am announcing that the Cal State San Bernardino Spring Semester will open for remote/online instruction for the majority of courses on January 22, 2022, and remain virtual until February 18, 2022. Virtual instruction allows us to further slow the spread of COVID-19 by limiting the number of additional individuals on campus on a daily basis. Notifications will go out to students in courses which require in-person, face-to-face instruction for how such instruction will be delivered. University operations will continue to remain open for in-person and remote services. Information on the status of specific on-campus events will be provided on an event-by-event basis.

Rest assured that CSUSB will still provide access to a quality higher education to advance the academic goals of all who attend. I know that many of you are anxious as we navigate yet another wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and Omicron variant. I take all of your concerns seriously. I personally share them myself. The pandemic has impacted all of us in some form.

I have been working daily with the Cabinet and Repopulation Committee to monitor the latest news around COVID, including internationally, nationally and locally. Promoting a healthy campus community is at the top of my priorities and I do not take this pandemic lightly.

There are actions you can take to keep yourself healthy. Please, get fully vaccinated, including boosted. Students and non-represented employees are required to obtain a booster by February 28, 2022, and update their self-certification status accordingly through the myCoyote portal under the Employee COVID-19 Vaccine Self-Certification or the Student COVID-19 Vaccine Self-Certification tiles. Represented employees will not be subject to the booster requirement until the CSU concludes its meet-and-confer process with labor unions. The CSU's COVID-19 vaccination policy allows students and employees to seek exemptions on medical and religious grounds.

Limited booster shot appointments are available on both campus locations. To make an appointment, visit: <https://csusb.veritastesting.com>. Another online tool for us in California is <https://myturn.ca.gov> which will connect you with the location for free shots closest to where you live.

The following mitigation measures remain in place for our physical campus:

- Complete the daily health screening to ensure that you are healthy and well prior to physically coming to campus. And if you are feeling ill, stay home. With a highly infectious disease, this is key.
- Wear a mask at all times you are on campus, regardless of vaccination status. Masks are available at several locations on campus. Visit <https://www.csusb.edu/covid-19/face-coverings-campus> for more information.

- Complete mandatory testing for all unvaccinated faculty, staff and students accessing campus facilities, or if you are experiencing symptoms.

As always, monitor the Return of the Pack website for the latest information on the fluid situation caused by COVID.

The gift of working at a university is seeing, each day, the potential for building lives and creating bright futures. So let us start this semester, together in hope, by treating one another with empathy and care.

In community,

Tomás D. Morales
President