

# BC response to COVID-19 outbreak

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As of today, key items that will affect students are as follows:

- Classes will move to an online format starting Monday, March 23 until at least April 3, with the possibility of extending online classes further into the semester.
- All athletic contests (games, tournaments) have been canceled for the remainder of the spring semester.
- Students requesting to return to campus for any reason must email [campuslife@brevard.edu](mailto:campuslife@brevard.edu) to receive permission and guidance before returning to campus.
- For students who are on campus, BC Dining Services announced via an email today that starting Monday, March 23, meals (lunch and dinner) will be delivered to the lobby of your residence hall, and you must fill out an online form to reserve a meal for each day. Check your email for more information.

The college's COVID-19 Updates website also includes pages with changes to the academic calendar and pandemic guidelines for BC faculty, staff and students. Some important points on these pages are as follows:

- Advising for the fall 2020 semester will take place virtually with your academic adviser for two weeks, from March 23 to April 3.
- The job and grad fair scheduled for March 26 has been canceled.
- Pre-registration for fall 2020 will begin as scheduled on April 5.
- College officials are considering alternate plans for Honors and Awards Day (April 21) and for Commencement Weekend (May 8-9), though no changes have been made as of right now.
- All students, staff and faculty are urged to read through all of the guidelines on this website and to check your email frequently for updates or changes.

## Moving to online classes

The move to online classes for at least two weeks starting on Monday, March 23 will present some special challenges for everyone. In an email to the campus yesterday, Vice President for Academic Affairs Scott Sheffield acknowledged the difficulties and provided some helpful information.

The two-week online period from March 23 to April 3 will be a time for transition during which college officials will monitor what

is happening and assess our ability to transition to online classes effectively before deciding what to do after April 3. "Let me assure you that we will make a decision on what we will do next as soon as we can," Sheffield said.

Of utmost importance for students is to prepare for what comes next.

"Right now, it is important for you to focus on getting ready to participate in your classes online," Sheffield wrote in the email. "Your professors are working to move course content online for you to access beginning on Monday. Be sure that you read your campus email and login to your courses in Sakai to find out what you need to do for each class.

"Login to your classes BEFORE the time they are normally scheduled when you are on campus. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact your instructors. They care about you and want you to succeed."

Sheffield also included the link to a support website designed to help students as we shift to online classes: <https://sites.google.com/brevard.edu/onlinestudents/>. (You may have to login with your [brevard.edu](mailto:brevard.edu) Google account to view this website.) The site includes a page of what to expect, a list of common issues students might face, and a page on how you can be successful in online classes. The page also has a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page, and Sheffield encouraged students to check the page and your campus email for occasional updates.

Good communication is key to thriving in online class environments. "Please do not hesitate to contact your instructor immediately with your questions and concerns," Sheffield said.

## A Note from the Editor

As all of you are now aware, Brevard College decided to extend Spring Break for an extra week and has put online classes in place for at least the next two weeks. Because of this, the Clarion staff will not be able to meet as we regularly do, but we remain committed to reporting and serving BC as much as possible. Consequently, we will continue to put out issues for the remainder of the semester as we work remotely, including this issue.

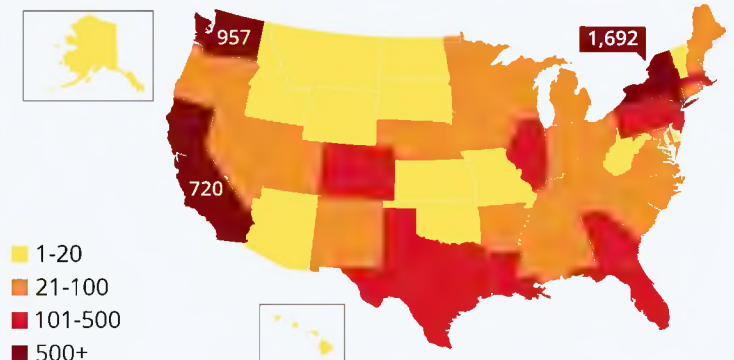
Also in this issue, because the NCAA has suspended athletics for the remainder of this semester, we felt that it was best to include as many articles as we could about all of the sports that have occurred since the last issue we published on March 4.

We will be publishing for now in electronic format only, but as I say, we are strongly committed to serving the college as much as possible and we will do whatever we can during this time to report on the college and the world.

—Zach Dickerson,  
editor in chief

## Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in the U.S.

U.S. states with current COVID-19 cases, by number of patients infected\*



California figure includes U.S. passengers on Grand Princess cruise ship  
\* as of March 18, 2020 6 a.m. EST

Sources: Johns Hopkins University, CDC



statista

Around 6,500 cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in the U.S. as of today, according to the CDC and Johns Hopkins University. As seen in the map at left, all states are now affected, with West Virginia logging its first case despite having tested only 137 people so far. Hardest hit are California, Washington state and New York state, where at 6 a.m. today there were 720, 957 and a whopping 1,692 active cases. Case numbers in Texas and Pennsylvania have also been rising rapidly and reached 129 and 115, respectively, as of 6 a.m. today.