

Subject: Update: HACC's Preparation for the Coronavirus – June 18, 2020
Date: Thursday, June 18, 2020 5:18:23 PM

Greetings, colleagues!

I know this continues to be a time of uncertainty for many of us. What remains certain is that HACC will continue to offer an affordable, quality educational experience and comprehensive services for students for years to come. I am excited about the ways we will innovate and grow as a College [as we prepare for the fall semester](#). Please continue to share your feedback, ask questions and help one another.

On another note, tomorrow is Juneteenth, which Governor Tom Wolf designated as “[Juneteenth National Freedom Day](#)” in Pennsylvania. As many of us engage in the necessary work of educating ourselves and others, I encourage you to [learn more about this significant day](#) and seek opportunities to observe it.

As you have come to expect, following are the commonly asked questions and our responses to them. Please note that some of these responses are tentative and subject to change.

If you have additional questions and you do not see the answers on the website, please submit the online form located on the website. Please see the webpage section called “[Information for Employees](#).” If you would like to see the information being communicated to students, please see the webpage called “[Information for Students](#).”

We will continue to update you regularly via email, the aforementioned website and Zoom sessions.

Thank you!

John J. “Ski” Sygielski, MBA, Ed.D.
Pronouns: He, Him, His
President & CEO
HACC, Central Pennsylvania’s Community College

1. I am disappointed with the decision to close HACC’s campuses through the fall semester. That is not fair to students who want to come to campus and learn.

The decision to conduct the fall 2020 semester in a mostly remote format was not one that the College took lightly. HACC convened a task force of employees and students to examine options. After weeks of careful deliberation and research, that task force determined that this mostly remote approach is the best way to ensure the safety of all in our College community while also allowing students to continue their education. Not everyone will be happy with this decision, but given the great uncertainty about what COVID-19 will do in the weeks and months ahead, we are confident that this decision protects our most important resources: our students and employees.

2. Does HACC plan on recognizing Juneteenth as a holiday or at least some form of support? This is now recognized as a state holiday. How can we get involved?

On June 19, 2019, Pennsylvania Governor Wolf [declared](#) Juneteenth as a holiday to observe the day that ended slavery in the United States. Links about this holiday follow:

- [What is Juneteenth? Holiday commemorates end of slavery in the U.S.](#)
- [Juneteenth 2020: What the holiday celebrates; events happening around central Pa.](#)

3. Are there any tuition giveaways to support HACC students for the fall semester?

Thanks to the [HACC Foundation](#), 40 \$2,000 tuition giveaways will be awarded to current and future HACC students for the fall 2020 semester.

These are not scholarships. Students do not have to apply for the tuition giveaways through AcademicWorks, the online scholarship management system. Instead, students may enter the drawing for a \$2,000 tuition giveaway by completing the [online form](#) and [registering for classes](#).

The \$2,000 will be applied to the winners' [tuition and fees](#) for the fall semester only. The \$2,000 covers almost nine credits!

4. How and when will we know which hands-on and observation-required classes are remote instruction or not?

We are in the process of rebuilding the fall schedule right now. Deans are working with faculty to determine how many times students will need to visit campus to complete the hands-on components and which components can be completed remotely. This process will take several weeks in light of the large number of courses that we are rescheduling. We appreciate your patience as we rebuild the schedule.

Once it is complete, we will include the exact days and times that students will be required to visit campus for the hands-on components. It will be similar to how we currently indicate the day, time and room assignment for labs.

5. Will a collegewide Zoom session be held on July 2?

No. The Zoom sessions will resume on July 9.

6. When will the campus gyms and pools be open for use by students, alumni and community members?

All HACC campuses remain closed through Dec. 31, 2020. Therefore, all exercise facilities on our campuses are also closed.

7. Will the on-campus high school in Lancaster be allowed to open?

All HACC campuses remain closed through Dec. 31, 2020. The Lancaster Campus Academy will not be operating on HACC's Lancaster Campus during that time period.

8. How can students get books from the bookstore for fall?

Students can order books online at [bookstore.hacc.edu](#). Textbooks for fall classes will be shipped to students at no cost. Payments through financial aid, credit card, check or HACC bookstore gift card will be accepted. Students can also order course materials, school supplies, HACC spirit gear and electronics online.

9. **Did the COVID-19 Task Force talk about adding plexiglass on the counters for employees who have to greet people as they enter an office?**

The COVID-19 Task Force did not discuss these details as the general public will not have campus access. Only essential personnel or employees and students involved in the approved programs will have access to the campuses.

HACC will extend remote work for employees during the fall semester, and College services will be offered remotely.

10. **Will the College provide food service for students and employees on campus in the fall?**

HACC campuses remain closed through Dec. 31. Food services will not be available. Only essential personnel or employees and students involved in the approved programs will have access to the campuses.

11. **There are several groups scheduled to use space on the Harrisburg Campus starting Aug. 17, 2020. Will they be unable to utilize it until we are all back to campus? And what about events such as walks/runs and car shows?**

HACC campuses remain closed, and all internal and external campus events are canceled through Dec. 31, 2020.

However, the College remains open with remote and online classes and services for the summer and fall 2020 semesters.

Only approved credit and Workforce Development programs with required hands-on/experiential components to meet learning outcomes will be permitted on-campus. Masks are required for anyone on campus and must cover the mouth and nose. Social distancing is also required with at least 6 feet of distance between individuals.

12. **With HACC announcing that it extended online classes and services through the fall 2020 semester, will any programs at the Senator John J. Shumaker Public Safety Center (PSC) be offered?**

PSC will continue to offer select public safety programs that were approved to be taught on the Harrisburg Campus and at some off-site locations for the summer and fall 2020 semesters. For more information about PSC's program schedule, please visit hacc.edu/1stResponders.

Please note that this information is tentative and subject to change. However, HACC's dedication to the safety of our employees and students will never change.

You are our priority!

QUOTE: *We either own our stories or they own us. Only when we have the courage to own our history are we able to write a brave new ending to our story. ~Brene Brown*