

Subject: Your Coronavirus Preparedness Questions Answered – March 25, 2020
Date: Wednesday, March 25, 2020 3:00:07 PM



Greetings, HACC student!

If you missed the email that I sent yesterday regarding the College's revised plans, please read it [here](#). Yesterday's email includes information about key decisions that were made. Please know that these decisions were not made lightly. We believe that keeping the campuses closed through May 17 is the best decision for everyone's health and safety. We very much appreciate your understanding and flexibility.

Beginning this month, I invite you to join me for a Zoom meeting. All HACC students are invited to participate to ask questions about HACC's coronavirus preparedness and decisions that impact you. The dates, times and Zoom instructions follow:

Dates and Times

March 31, 2020, at 1 p.m.

April 13, 2020, at 2 p.m.

May 6, 2020, at 1 p.m.

[Zoom Information is redacted for security purposes.]

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 Students."

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

Thank you!

John J. "Ski" Sygielski, MBA, Ed.D.
President & CEO
HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College

1. How should Federal Work Study (FSW) student workers code their timesheets on days they don't work?

FSW student workers should code their time as regular hours. They are not eligible for emergency leave.

2. Has the 2020 Annual President's Collegewide Symposium been canceled?

The Annual President's Collegewide Symposium scheduled for May 1 is canceled.

3. Will I be getting a refund since classes have moved to remote instruction and I signed up for on-campus classes? I am concerned I will do poorly in this new format.

HACC is continuing all coursework with remote instruction so that students are able to finish the semester. Therefore, the College will not be issuing refunds.

Students are encouraged to continue their courses remotely and seek help from their instructors or tutoring if needed.

HACC offers remote tutoring sessions to assist students in need of more personalized help with their coursework. To learn more about remote tutoring, please visit www.hacc.edu/Students/Tutoring/index.cfm?csSearch=877927_1.

4. How will transcripts work for people who are applying to transfer?

HACC is currently unable to process requests for pick up or mail delivery of transcripts. Students are encouraged to order their official transcript online through the National Student Clearinghouse for electronic delivery.

To access the National Student Clearinghouse, please click the following link and choose the option for electronic transcripts (E-transcripts):

www.hacc.edu/Students/TransferringfromHACC/Transcript-Request.cfm?cssearch=877903_1.

5. I realize the TEAS test was discussed before the school closed with a tentative re-open date of May 17. What are students supposed to do about taking the TEAS for the fall semester?

The Nursing Department is working on a remote testing option for TEAS. We will inform students once details are available

6. Will I get a refund for the amount that I paid for in-person face-to-face class and not online? I always thought online classes were a lot cheaper due to the reason that the instructors weren't really teaching and it was more “learn at your own pace.”

At HACC, each instructor creates their own course, builds out content, constructs quizzes, assignments and exams and works individually with students in the course. Therefore, our online courses cost the same as our on-campus courses. In addition, most of our online courses still have scheduled assignments and due dates. They are not “learn at your own pace” courses.

In the current situation, your on-campus class was not just switched to an online class. Instead, your class is being taught remotely. Your instructors are using Zoom to deliver classes via video during your scheduled class time, and they are using some of our online class tools to supplement the courses. The faculty are working to transition students to this new mode of teaching and learning in a way that will be least disruptive to the process. Please address your concerns about the changes to your faculty member, who is best positioned to answer your questions.

7. What happens with the May Commencement ceremony? Do we still have one or will it just be handing out diplomas virtually?

The College has decided that we will not hold our Commencement (graduation) ceremony in May as the result of safety concerns over the spread of COVID-19. We understand that this ceremony is an important part of each student’s college experience. We will invite all spring 2020 graduates to participate in the December 2020 Commencement ceremony so we can honor you appropriately.

However, it is also important to note that students who have met the requirements to graduate this semester will still receive their degrees via the U.S. Postal Service in late June.

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