



Office of the President

A Message from
President Adela de la Torre, Ph.D.

Dear SDSU Community,

We hope you had a safe spring recess, and we welcome you back as we look forward to closing out the academic year in six weeks. We also want to acknowledge our graduating students. We look forward to seeing you virtually during the May 16 celebration to honor you! This is not how we wanted to close out the year with you, but we appreciate that we will have time to celebrate with you and your loved ones, prior to the in-person commencement in December.

To all of our students, we have been so impressed by your resilience and dedication to your academic work and research. Some of you have moved your club activities into the virtual space to continue community connections. What you are doing, in addition to

As we have said so many times before, the safety and health of our community is paramount. We continue to mitigate interruption created by COVID-19 and have begun planning for the summer and next academic year. With this campus update, we are sharing information about important changes to summer courses, and some additional flexibility around financial payments and academic requirements.

Summer 2020 is Online -- Additional Courses Offered

In recent years, San Diego State University has accelerated moving summer courses online. This has been in response to the growing demand for virtual instruction, and to help our students stay on track for graduation.

This summer, all summer courses will be virtual, with most of the courses originally published as face-to-face or hybrid, now being moved to online-only. Those few summer courses that do not lend themselves to virtualization at this time will be canceled. We expect about 500 course sections to be available online for our students, and additional courses may be added in the coming weeks.

Summer session enrollment is open now, and students may search the summer class schedule online.

Changes to Student Payments and Other Requirements

We are aware that COVID-19 has introduced a range of challenges for some SDSU students and their families, and that some are now experiencing unanticipated financial challenges and hardships as a result.

SDSU will postpone the tuition pre-payment requirement for students currently enrolled who are looking to register for courses for Fall 2020. Students will have additional time to pay; the deadline is now set for June 15 for fall 2020 classes.

The university is also postponing Cashier Holds, or C-Holds, for students who have outstanding balances. This will allow students to register for classes or adjust their academic schedules without being penalized for having a current outstanding balance.

Further, the University Senate voted yesterday afternoon and approved a number of policy changes meant to directly benefit students. The changes adopted include the following:

- **Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR Requirement) Waived:** Students who were not able, during the spring 2020 semester, to retake the Writing Placement Assessment for a higher score or who were planning to take the exam this semester, will be allowed to move into an appropriate upper-division writing class during the summer and fall semesters.
- **Academic Probation and Disqualification:** Undergraduate students whose grade-point averages fall below a 2.0 average for the spring 2020 semester will not be placed on academic probation and students who are currently on probation will not be subject to academic disqualification. Graduate students whose grade-point averages fall below a 2.85 average for the spring 2020 semester will not be placed on academic probation, nor will graduate students currently on probation be subject to academic disqualification. Both undergraduate and graduate students who achieve their academic benchmarks (2.0 and 2.85, respectively) will be returned to normal status, and no longer on academic probation.

Student Resources are Expanding

We have shared in earlier messages that faculty and staff have spent weeks working to ensure that all students are equipped to learn and get needed support no matter their location. In addition to services being offered virtually, some assistance is expanding.

We ask that students rely on the programs and services established prior and during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Any SDSU or SDSU Imperial Valley student who is experiencing food insecurity and other unforeseen economic uncertainties, including housing, technology (lack of access to a computer or laptop, for example), crisis support, or who have other urgent needs, are urged to contact the Economic Crisis Response Team (ECRT). Students should submit via the ECRT form to request assistance.
- Handshake, SDSU's online career platform, also provides listings of available part-time employment opportunities. To access Handshake or learn more about programs offered by Career Services, please click [here](#).
- Students are also being surveyed to understand what additional academic and support resources are needed. We ask that students complete the Academic and Support Resources survey via the online form.

Be Well

We continue to encourage you to monitor your own health as well as the health of your loved ones, and to continue following the direction of state and federal health authorities. Many of you are making every effort to manage work-related and family obligations, and we thank you.

Adela de la Torre
San Diego State University President

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