



February 5, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

In keeping with our steadfast commitment to protect the health and safety of employees and students, your College administrators join all constituent group leaders in urging ALL EMPLOYEES to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

While the roll-out of vaccines has been slow and steady in San Diego County, it is important to get ready and review your options as the vaccine becomes more available. While the infrastructure has been put in place in our County to administer more than 20,000 doses of the vaccine daily, these efforts have outpaced the supply of the vaccine. It seems that the most availability of appointments exist at the vaccine super stations at Petco Park, Grossmont Center, Sharp Health Care South Bay in Chula Vista, Cal State San Marcos, and the newest one at UCSD. Some Palomar College employees have indicated that it was easy to schedule and get their vaccine at Kaiser Permanente. However as of February 4, Kaiser indicated that their supply of vaccines is limited to the immunization of healthcare workers in Phase 1A and individuals 75 and older. Some of the County super stations and smaller vaccination sites, also referred to as Points of Distribution (PODs), are taking appointments for individuals aged 65 and over.

Vaccination Schedules and Appointments:

The [County website](#) includes more information regarding the above-mentioned super stations and PODs. The website also provides clarification of the identification documents that can be used for proof of vaccination eligibility. These include Photo ID badges and official employment letters, both of which we make available at Palomar College.

[MyTurn](#) is a website managed at the state level and requires users to answer a few eligibility questions before being able to search available locations. Search results indicate the closest location to a zip code and provides an option for a more comprehensive location list. This website is still being considered a pilot in Los Angeles and San Diego Counties, so there may be a delay before it accurately reflects all the current appointments that are available.

The [VaccinateCA](#) website provides a comprehensive inventory of vaccination locations, including pharmacies in the area. It isn't quite as geo-targeted as the County website – meaning, your search results will include locations from throughout the County instead of those nearest your zip code.

Professional Development – COVID-19 Vaccine

Professional Development will be available soon with information to assist as well. Dr. Patrick Savaiano

and Family Nurse Practitioner Sarah Adams discussed navigating vaccination websites on February 4, during our weekly COVID-19 meeting. The session was recorded and you can find the file [here](#).

Our Medical Director for Health Services, Kourosh Khamooshian, MD, will be joining the COVID-19 campus update on February 11, to provide a more in-depth presentation on the COVID-19 vaccines that are available in our county. In addition, at the February 18 COVID-19 campus update, our very own Lesley Williams will *present "COVID-19 and understanding the science behind transmission and the new variants"*. As more opportunities to share additional information develop, we will notify you.

Moving through the Phases and Tiers

While right now vaccines are only available in San Diego County to those who qualify under Phase 1A (Tiers 1-3) and individuals aged 65 and over, we will be sharing more information as soon as more individuals from Phase 1B become eligible, allowing for more Palomar employees to get vaccinated. We recognize not everyone can get their vaccine yet, but if you can, please do, and the rest of us will be communicated with as soon as availability is offered. If you are interested in more information regarding the Phases and Tiers of the vaccination distribution, please refer to [this website](#).

Thank you for your commitment to the health and safety of our students and employees!

Sincerely,

Jack Kahn, Ph.D.
Interim Superintendent/President

Teresa Laughlin
Co-President, Palomar Faculty Federation

Barbara Baer
Co-President, Palomar Faculty Federation

Anel Gonzalez
President, CCE/AFT Local 4522

Jim Odom
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