

# LOS RIOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

American River ▪ Cosumnes River ▪ Folsom Lake ▪ Sacramento City Colleges

## RESOLUTION

No 2021-18

### DIRECTING THE CHANCELLOR TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COVID VACCINE REQUIREMENT TO INCREASE VACCINATION RATES FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, the Los Rios Community College District (the “District”) Board of Trustees adopted Resolution No. 2020-02 declaring the COVID-19 pandemic a public health emergency and directing the Chancellor to take any and all actions necessary to ensure the continuation of public education through remote operations or other methods as appropriate, and preserve the health and safety of the District’s students and staff; and

**WHEREAS**, since that time, the recommendations from public health authorities and the tools available to combat the COVID-19 pandemic have evolved dramatically, including the development, approval, distribution, and broad availability of COVID-19 vaccines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) have found the Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines (“Vaccines”) to be safe and effective at preventing the transmission of, and hospitalization and death from COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 Vaccines under the most intense safety monitoring in U.S. history; and

**WHEREAS**, despite the safety and availability of the Vaccines, as of July 28, 2021 only 49.7% of the United States population, and 62.9% of the California population were fully vaccinated; and

**WHEREAS**, daily statewide vaccination rates have decreased from an average high of more than 400,000 per day in the spring to just under 70,000 doses per day on average; and

**WHEREAS**, statewide communities of color are less likely to have been vaccinated, with Latinos/as making up 39.4% of California’s vaccine eligible population but only 28.5% of vaccine distribution and African Americans making up 5.7% of our vaccine eligible population but only 3.9% of vaccine distribution; and

**WHEREAS**, the first case of the more transmissible COVID-19 Delta Variant was identified in December of 2020, and the strain quickly became the dominant strain of the virus in the United States, causing more than 80% of new United States COVID-19 cases by the end of July 2021 (according to CDC estimates); and

**WHEREAS**, people who have not been vaccinated against COVID-19 are most at risk of infection, adverse health consequences, and further spreading COVID-19, including the highly transmissible Delta Variant, to friends, family, colleagues, and the community at large; and

**WHEREAS**, the overwhelming majority of serious illness, hospitalizations, and death resulting from COVID-19, including the Delta Variant, are among the unvaccinated; and

**WHEREAS**, both public and private employers and colleges and universities across the country have imposed vaccine requirements for employees and students to protect their workforces and educational communities from the continued spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the University of California recently imposed a COVID-19 vaccine requirement for employees, students, and others accessing University facilities and programs, effective for the Fall 2021 term; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 26, 2021, the State of California announced that it will require all state workers and workers in health care and high-risk congregate settings to either show proof of full vaccination or be subject to strict COVID-19 mitigation protocols, including testing at least once per week, and encouraged all local government and other employers to adopt a similar protocol; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 27, 2021, the California State University system announced that it will require faculty, staff and students who are accessing campus facilities at any university location to be immunized against COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 27, 2021, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office urged all local community college districts to exercise their authority to adopt vaccination requirements with flexibility where vaccines are not possible due to medical conditions or sincerely held religious beliefs; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 29, 2021, President Biden announced that all federal employees will be required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or face repeated testing mandates in response to the spread of the Delta Variant; and

**WHEREAS**, the District Board of Trustees continues to prioritize the health and safety of its students, employees, and educational community and the preservation of lives in the Greater Sacramento region as the COVID-19 public health emergency continues to unfold; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that consistent with recommendations and directives from the State of California and the federal government, the Board of Trustees directs the Chancellor and/or designee to take any and all actions necessary to develop and implement a COVID-19 vaccine requirement (“Vaccine Requirement”), including verification of proof of vaccination, for District employees, students, and others who access District facilities at any District location; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Vaccine Requirement will be developed consistent with applicable legal requirements, including exceptions for medical conditions and sincerely held religious beliefs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Vaccine Requirement will be effective for District employees as soon as practicable during the Fall semester, with a goal of all employees having received a first dose by no later than October 1, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Vaccine Requirement will be effective for District students as soon as practicable during the Fall semester, with a goal of all students having received a first dose by no later than October 1, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District is committed to working closely with all collective bargaining units, the Academic Senate, the Classified Senates, and any other appropriate District constituencies, as it deals with the complicated and varied questions that will arise in the coming weeks and months related to the imposition of a Vaccine Requirement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Chancellor and/or Designee shall have the authority to amend the Vaccine Requirement as necessary based on the evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and recommendations from federal, state, and local public health authorities.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** as Los Rios Community College District Resolution No. 2021-18 this third day of August, 2021, by the following called vote:

AYES: 6	NAYES: 1	ABSENT: 0
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Deborah Ortiz, Board President

Attest:



Brian King, Chancellor and Secretary to the Board