

Congrats, Class of 2020!

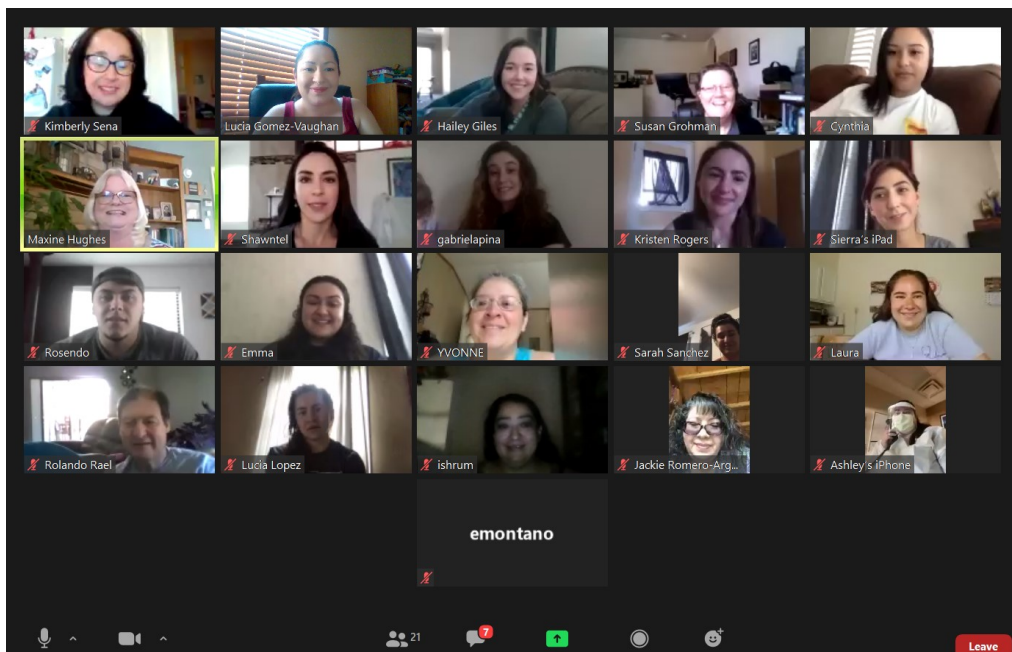
Graduates finish strong despite a challenging spring

Luna Community College is proud to announce the graduation of its Class of 2020.

“You did it,” said Luna President Dr. Rolando Rael. “Nothing can stop you when you are truly determined to make your dreams a reality — and put in the hard work, commitment and perseverance required. Completing your graduation is evidence of that.”

While the originally scheduled commencement ceremony was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a possibility of a ceremony on a later date, provided that it’s feasible.

This year’s graduating class, at Luna and across the globe, has had to endure adversity unimagined when the school year began. The global pandemic of COVID-19 forced public and private entities to take up unprecedented social distancing measures in the effort to mitigate the impact of the virus. Luna faced the possibility of shutting down but — thanks to a cohesive effort from students, faculty and staff, with support from trustees — instead made a largely successful transition



Luna Community College nursing graduates take part in a virtual ceremony marking the completion of the program. In alphabetical order, they include Cynthia Campos, Hailey Giles, Rosendo Gonzales, Lucia Lopez, Ashley Lovato, Emma Peoble, Gabriela Pina, Kristen Rogers, Sarah Sanchez and Laura Sandoval. Joining them for the online gathering are Luna President Dr. Rolando Rael; director Maxine Hughes; faculty Lucia Gomez-Vaughn, Susan Grohman, Jackie Romero-Arguello, Kimberly Sena and Irma Shrum; and staff Sierra Fernandez, Elaine Montano and Yvonne Pina. Rael led the faculty and staff members in giving the student nurses words of encouragement, and each student was given opportunity to share their thoughts.

to a virtual campus with online course delivery.

The adjustment wasn’t easy for everyone. Making the switch to distance and online teaching and learning has been a challenge at times, for a variety of reasons. Luna invested in expanded tutoring hours and availability, embedding a number of tutors from its Academic

Center for Excellence in many online courses to offer additional help. Essential student services were transitioned to remote availability over e-mail and telephone. While some classes — those that require traditional face-to-face delivery and hands-on experience — were not able

MORE: See Page 3



Luna is reminding students (and prospective students) about registration for Summer 2020 with this banner on Bridge Street in downtown Las Vegas. The college is grateful to the City of Las Vegas for agreeing to display the banner. Registration, which will be conducted via telephone, begins June 1. Classes begin the week of June 8. All classes will be online.

Photo courtesy Moses Marquez, LCC Admissions

Summer registration starts June 1

It's almost time to register for Summer 2020 at Luna Community College.

Summer registration will be conducted via telephone beginning Monday, June 1. Classes begin the week of Monday, June 8, and the last day to register or add classes is Friday, June 12.

All classes will be held online or via distance education. The transition to online and distance has been made to help ensure the health and safety of all in the Luna community.

If you are looking to sign up for Summer 2020 classes, please call your program advisor or the Luna Student Success Center for assistance. (See list of contacts accompanying this story.) If you have not been admitted to the college, you'll first need to complete an application form, available online at luna.edu/admissions.

Full course schedules for Summer 2020 are also available online at

luna.edu/schedule and at area post offices. Approximately 60 classes are being planned for the summer session. You should review the classes you would like to take and then call the appropriate advisor beginning June 1 to set up your schedule.

Payment arrangements may be made with the fiscal office once the schedule is set. You may call 505-454-2506 or 505-454-2515 or e-mail fiscaloffice@luna.edu to use a debit or credit card. Please leave a message with your name, student ID number and contact information. Alternately, you may pay with a check or money order payable to Luna Community College and send it by mail to Luna Community College Fiscal Office, 366 Luna Drive, Las Vegas, NM, 87701. Please include your name, student ID and contact information with your payment. Payments will be accepted through July 31 or the start of the Fall 2020 semester.

ADVISOR CONTACT LIST

ALLIED HEALTH: 454-2527, vatorres@luna.edu
 BUSINESS: 454-5337, lbernal@luna.edu
 EDUCATION: 454-5381, tjackson@luna.edu
 HUMANITIES: 454-2532 or 454-2594, rbaca@luna.edu or nbaker@luna.edu
 STEM: 454-2537, jvarela@luna.edu
 VOCATIONS: 454-2573, kwezwick@luna.edu
 STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER: 454-5355 or 454-2541, studentsuccess@luna.edu

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

ADMISSIONS: 454-2550, admissions@luna.edu
 FINANCIAL AID: 454-2534, finaid@luna.edu
 FISCAL OFFICE: 454-2515, fiscaloffice@luna.edu
 REGISTRAR/GENERAL INFO: 454-5313, registrar@luna.edu
 ACCUPLACER TEST INFO: 454-5355, studentsuccess@luna.edu
 VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER: 454-5343, scantu@luna.edu

College Scorecard:

The U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard has the most reliable data on college costs, graduation and post-college earnings. Visit collegescorecard.ed.gov

Class of 2020

Continued from Page 1

to be moved online, others fared well in the transition.

Francisco Apodaca, director of STEM and interim director of Allied Health Sciences, said Luna actually outperformed many peer institutions in making the switch. That, he said, is a credit to the college's students, faculty and staff.

With uncertainty clouding the forecast in terms of reopening public and private sectors in the months ahead, the college is cautiously optimistic about moving forward. Summer session will continue with Luna's online-only delivery, and with few exceptions the campus grounds will remain closed to the public while the college's services remain intact. Still to be determined is exactly what

Luna student earns scholarship

Emma Peoble, a nursing student at Luna Community College, has earned a \$1,000 Nightingale Scholarship — one of only 20 awarded statewide.

The Nightingale Nursing Scholarship Committee announced the award this past month. The scholarship is intended to help nursing students complete their studies and is named after iconic nurse Florence Nightingale.

Peoble is among the Class of 2020 graduates, earning her associate degree in nursing.



Emma Peoble

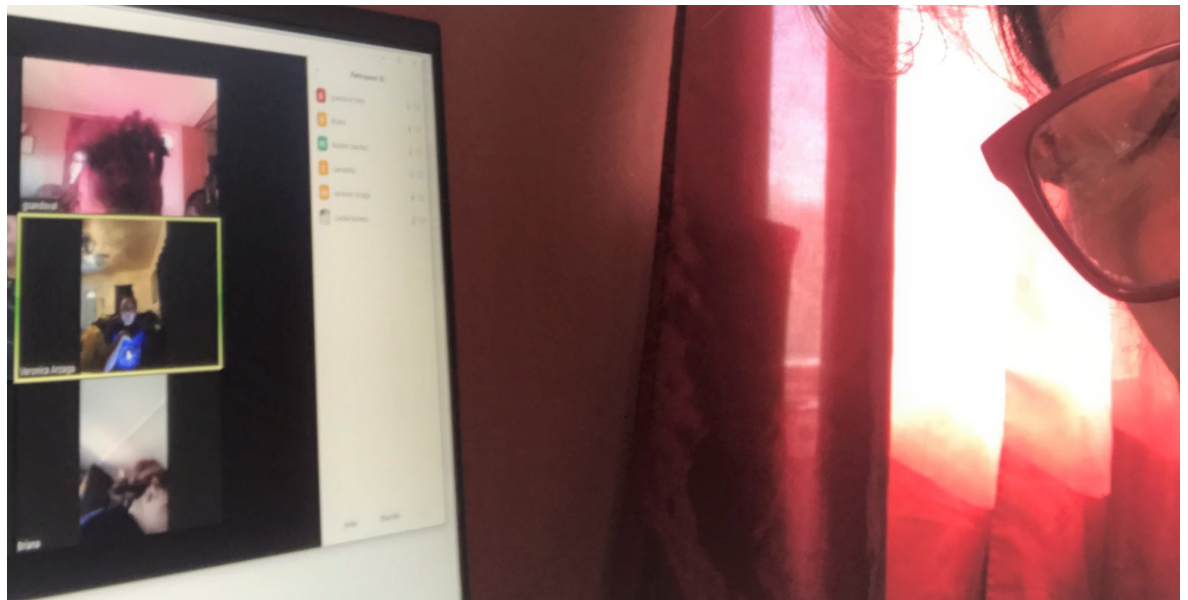
form the Fall 2020 course offerings will take. Online and distance delivery may continue as needed, or there may be a return to traditional delivery for those classes that had been face-to-face before. Luna's

plan will reflect adherence to state and federal guidelines.

"We're hoping for the best and that we will be able to reopen our campuses," Rael said, "but either way we will be prepared."

Taking finals online

Using video teleconferencing technology, Luna Community College cosmetology students take their final written and state law tests. Students, instructors and staff are continuing to adjust to a virtual campus and the challenges of online and distance learning.





The answer is close to us but we just don't see it

Have you ever thought on how fortunate we are to be here today, and that there are reasons for most things?

COVID-19 has shocked and frightened many of us. The world, our world, has changed. This highly contagious and deadly virus has made us be more careful in how we interact with one another. Wearing a mask and gloves when we leave our homes is becoming more common. I don't think there are many people taking life for granted anymore.

From one moment to the next, life got a little tougher. But we won't give up. We can never give up. We can't lose heart and have to stand firm and strong through the trials and tribulations.

There are more people hurting today than a year ago, but keep in mind there are also more people stepping up to help, which serves as a reminder that we care about one another.

There is good and bad in us. It takes courage to take out as much of the bad and bring out the good.

There has never been guarantees that life is free of heartache, challenges or hardships, but we have to try not to be afraid. We all can do our part by being less selfish, less greedy, and instead being more

By Jesse Gallegos
***A Different
Perspective***

humble and hopeful. The perspective of who we were, who we are now and who we will become is a bit challenging. But we can never stop imagining the possibilities of a brighter future.

There is no room for discouragement simply because we are all in this together.

We need to learn how to share our skills, share our abundance. We need to learn how to listen. We need to learn what is important.

It's human nature that trials tend to make us turn back. Many times they persuade us to lose heart, and the direct opposite is not necessarily immediate victory. Keep in mind it is the endurance that enables us to get back up when we fall.

We have to be smart on how we do things in today's world. We have to shatter the odds, undo the math and see who we've turned into. The answer is there, and perhaps to many of us, we just can't see it yet.

There is a lot of talk about getting back to normal. Perhaps the dream should be to have a new normal of kindness and compassion.

Even if we have previously fallen short, we can be changed and begin to act in loving ways.

“Perhaps the dream should be to have a new normal of kindness and compassion.”

Jesse Gallegos
Public Relations
coordinator,
Luna Community
College

Former Luna president dies

Leroy 'Huero' Sanchez was longtime educator

Leroy "Huero" Sanchez, a former Las Vegas mayor who served two tenures as president of Luna Community College, has died.

Sanchez died Thursday, May 7. He was 74 years old.

Sanchez was hired as Luna president in 2001 and held the position through 2006, going on to a job as Mora's public school superintendent.

Sanchez returned to the college as interim president in June 2015. He was appointed president in July of that year, and he served through March 2017.

In addition to his two terms as

president, Sanchez also served Luna as a lobbyist for the 2008 New Mexico State Legislature and as a grants consultant in 2012.

A graduate of West Las Vegas, Sanchez served in the U.S. military during the Vietnam War.

He attained his bachelor's and master's degrees in education from New Mexico Highlands University. He worked as a teacher in the West Las Vegas Schools district, eventually serving as principal at Valley Elementary and Middle School.

After representing citizens as a city councilor, he was elected mayor of the City of Las Vegas and served in the 1980s.

He also was an entrepreneur and operated his own Sanchez Sports business in town for a number of years.



Leroy Sanchez

Staff senate election planned

The Luna Community College Staff Advisory Senate will be conducting its annual election of officers in June.

SAS President Amanda Lucero announced the election on May 15.

All full-time staff members, except for the administrative directors of the seven academic and vocational departments, are eligible to seek election. Nominations for each of the six open positions on the staff senate should be submitted via e-mail to Dave Kavanaugh, dkavanaugh@luna.edu, through the deadline of 5 p.m. June 5.

A ballot will be e-mailed to staff after June 5, with the voting period to take place from June 8-19. Carolyn Chavez will be collecting the completed e-mail ballots. Results will be posted on June 22.

Based on the SAS constitution and bylaws, each staff position is assigned to a membership group that has one or representatives based on the number of employees within the group. Staff members may vote within their designated membership group.

Nominees who wish to campaign must abide by Luna policies

regarding advertisements or postings. Nominees must also abide by campaigning and voting policies in the SAS bylaws in order to avoid disqualification.

MORE NEWS: Susan Grohman will be taking over as faculty senate chairman for Breanna Gould, who has served in dual roles leading the faculty senate and shared governance council. Jason Killian is new vice chairman. The faculty senate plans to hold its senator election when instructors are back to work next semester.

College's work continues online

Activity remains vibrant for Luna Community College students, faculty, staff and board members — even though the campus grounds may be temporarily closed to most foot traffic due to COVID-19 concerns.

Along with the transitioning of classes to online and distance education during the now-concluded Spring 2020 semester, other types of gatherings and meetings have also been moved into a virtual environment.

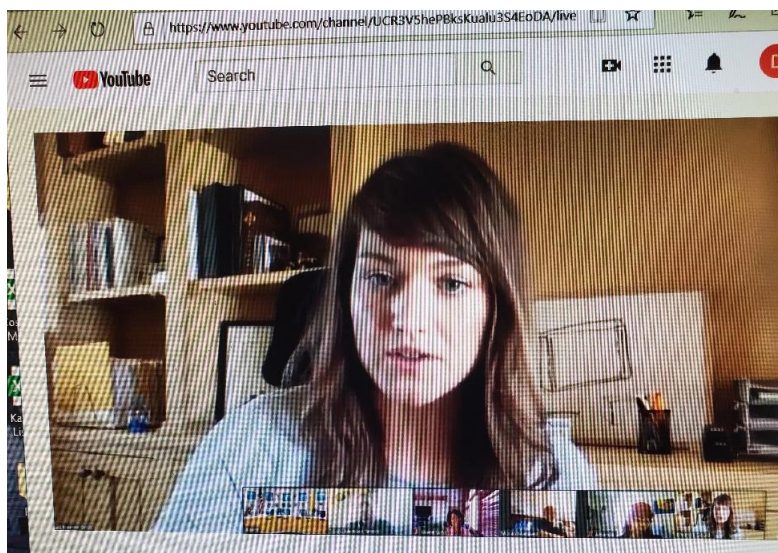
In the time since campuses were shuttered statewide in March, the LCC Board of Trustees has met several times for discussion and action on various items, careful to abide by Open Meetings Act laws while observing state-mandated social distancing rules. Those meetings have been live-streamed over the college's YouTube channel, with video recordings stored there as usual. Trustees have made use of teleconferencing technology, wearing protective facemasks and maintaining the 6-feet-apart spacing prescribed by experts.

The new way of meeting was tested recently when the board of trustees called for department heads and managers to provide progress reports. Each individual delivered their report over the online connection, each from their respective home offices.

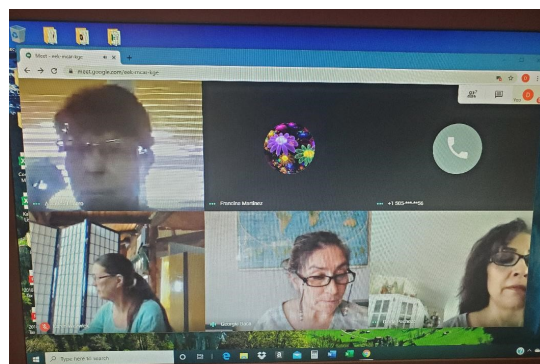
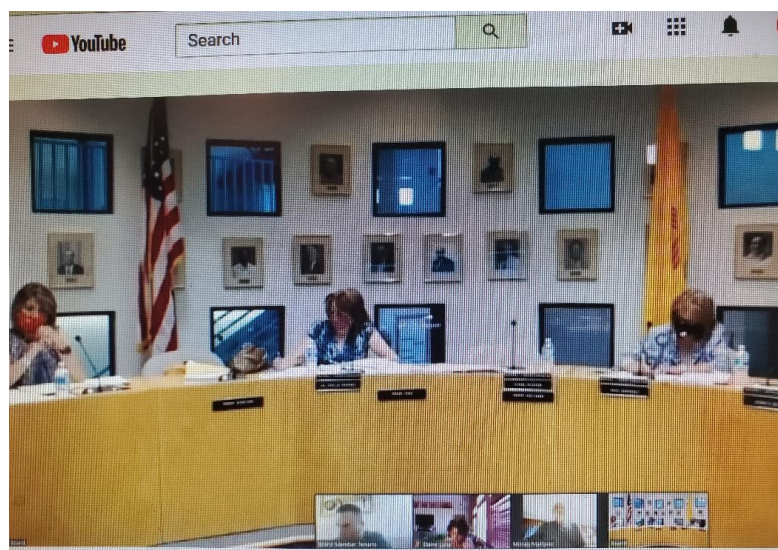
Likewise, other shared governance bodies and committees have also been meeting online, using either Zoom or Google Meetings to connect on a regular basis.

Department gatherings of 2020 graduates, as with nursing, and extracurricular events, such as the recent Wolves Den showcase, have all been held online, ensuring health and safety while keeping things running. A staff senate election this June will be conducted using e-mail.

As Luna plans for more of the same in the coming semesters (or, as conditions permit, a staged reopening of campus sites), the institution appears poised for either eventuality.



Shared governance chairman Breanna Gould delivers her report to the board of trustees via teleconferencing.



Above: Luna trustees wear masks and maintain social distance in a recent meeting. Left: Staff senate talks shop.

BOOK ORDERING PROCEDURE

Welcome to MBS Direct

MBS Direct has partnered with your school to provide a customized online bookstore. This bookstore is built around a course-driven system that ensures you order and receive the right book, right on time. Your textbooks and course materials are shipped from a state-of-the-art warehouse that is fully operational 24 hours a day, 5 days a week.

As you purchase your course materials, keep your eyes open for Guaranteed Buyback titles. When you select these in-demand items, you will see the minimum amount you can expect when you sell your books back to MBS Direct*. This lets you take into account the actual cost of ownership for each GBB title.

Our books are covered by a flexible and concise return policy that makes sense.

Ordering From MBS Direct

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- Check out
- Select Guaranteed Buyback titles and save up to 70% off your course materials.

Our customer contact center is open 24/7, ready to take your order or answer your questions. Call them at **1-800-325-3252** or email them at customerservice@mbsdirect.net.

Please visit your online bookstore for your school's customized return policy and customer service help.

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Immediate savings of up to 60%

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Faster delivery and savings of up to 80%

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Know how much you will receive when you sell your book back



On campus or off, it's easy to shape your future.

Every 10 years, the United States counts everyone living in the country, including college students like you. Your response to the 2020 Census will help make sure communities across the nation are accurately funded and represented for the next decade.

Responding is easy.

- › If you live in off-campus housing that is not owned, leased, or managed by your college or university, such as a private house that you share with other students or a privately owned apartment, you can respond online, by phone, or by mail beginning in mid-March 2020. You should count yourself at your off-campus address, even if you spend time somewhere else during school breaks.
- › If you live in on-campus student housing like residence halls, off-campus residence halls, or other student housing facilities that are owned, leased, or managed by your college or university, U.S. Census Bureau employees will work with representatives from your building to ensure that you are counted. You may be asked to complete an individual census form.
- › If you are an international student, the same rules apply.

For more information, visit:

2020CENSUS.GOV

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Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States®
Census
2020



Responding is important.

The 2020 Census will influence community funding and congressional representation. Information collected in the census will inform the allocation of more than \$675 billion in federal funds for states and communities each year. That includes money for things like:

- › Federal Pell Grants
- › Adult education grants
- › Agriculture, science, and engineering education
- › Student wellness programs
- › The Medical Assistance Program
- › Community mental health services

Responding is safe.

Your personal information is kept confidential by law, and your responses can only be used to produce statistics.

For more information, visit:

2020CENSUS.GOV

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**Shape
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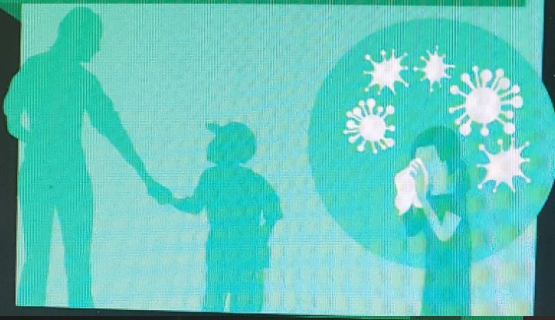
United States[®]
**Census
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COVID
CORONAVIRUS
DISEASE **19**

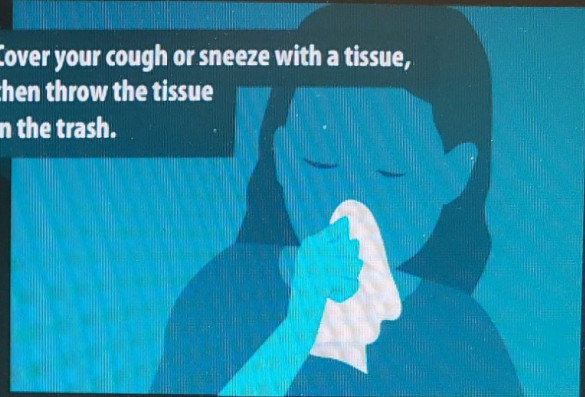
STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

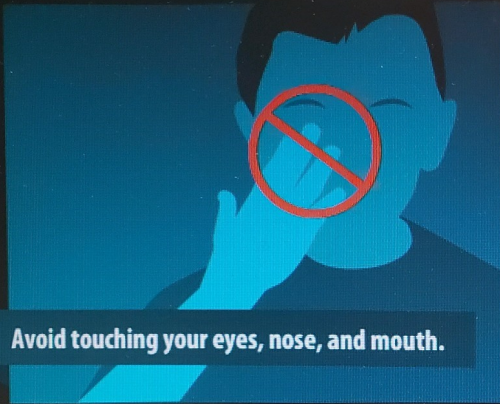
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



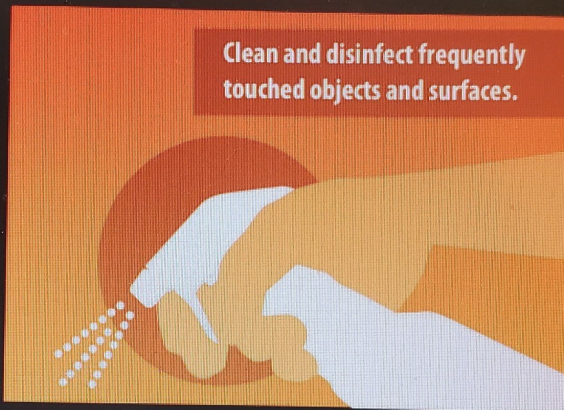
Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



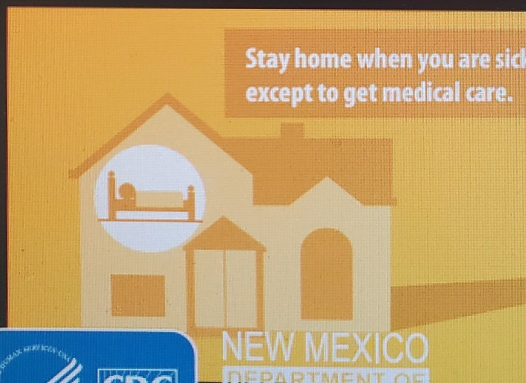
Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



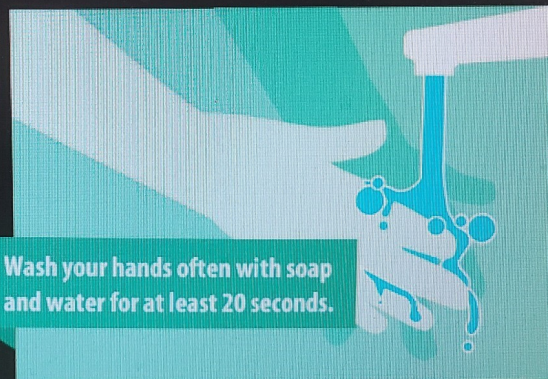
Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH

For more information: cv.nmhealth.org

CS314915-A

This summer, get closer to achieving your dreams.



Registration for Summer 2020 classes at Luna Community College will be open from Monday, June 1, through Friday, June 12.

CLASSES START MONDAY, JUNE 8.

All classes are online.

Summer schedules are available online at luna.edu/schedule; register by calling your program advisor or Student Success Center. Caring instructors and staff are here to support you as you pursue your educational and career goals. With the lowest tuition rates in the region, Luna makes it convenient and affordable to take the first step toward a higher education and rewarding career.

Registering for classes

1. Review available classes. Schedule available at www.luna.edu/schedule and at area post offices. (If you have not been admitted, please complete online application at luna.edu/admissions.)
2. Call your program advisor or the Student Success Center to set up your schedule. See phone list at right.
3. Make payment arrangements. Payments accepted through July 31.
By phone: Use debit or credit card. E-mail fiscaloffice@luna.edu or call 505-454-2506 or 505-454-2515; leave message including your name, student ID number and callback number.
By mail: Use check or money order, made payable to Luna Community College. Mail payment to Luna Community College, Fiscal Office, 366 Luna Drive, Las Vegas, NM, 87701.
Please indicate payment is for tuition and include student info.

ADVISOR CONTACT LIST

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EDUCATION: 454-5381, tjackson@luna.edu
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ACCUPLACER TEST INFO: 454-5355,
studentsuccess@luna.edu
VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER: 454-5343, scantu@luna.edu



The Luna Light is a publication of the Luna Community College Office of Public Relations. To submit story ideas or items for consideration, please e-mail Jesse Gallegos, jgallegos@luna.edu, and Dave Kavanaugh, dkavanaugh@luna.edu.

Begin your journey to success — without having to leave home.

Luna Community College is here for you and ready to help you achieve your dreams. Luna is convenient, affordable and committed to serving you. Summer 2020 classes will be offered entirely online and begin Monday, June 8. Here's how to register:

- 1** Apply for admission (and financial aid), if you haven't already been admitted. Visit luna.edu/application to apply; visit luna.edu/financial-aid for info about aid.
- 2** Review available classes this coming semester, see what interests you. Visit luna.edu/schedule or pick up a copy at an area post office.
- 3** Starting June 1 (and continuing through June 12), call your program advisor or the Student Success Center to set up your schedule. Register over the phone. Visit luna.edu/schedule for full phone list of advisors and other helpful staff.
- 4** Make payment arrangements (payment accepted through July 31). E-mail fiscaloffice@luna.edu or call 505-454-2506 or 505-454-2515. Leave message that includes your name, student ID number and callback number.
- 5** Buy your textbooks as needed, using our convenient online bookstore. Visit bookstore.mbsdirect.net/luna.htm and look up your class requirements.
- 6** Get ready for your classes! Have a great semester! Tutoring and other services are here for you. See luna.com/directory.

