

*The latest news from Luna Community College*

Second Volume 4, Issue 17 Aug. 27, 2021



# Back to School!



# Luna takes shot at COVID



## *Protocols designed to protect health and safety as campus kicks off fall semester*

In an effort to ensure the health and safety of the campus community and beyond while resuming operations this fall, Luna Community College has implemented a new set of COVID-19 protocols, effective immediately.

As it has since the pandemic began, the college will continue to monitor the situation and adhere to guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the New Mexico Department of Health and the governor's office. Any necessary adjustments will be provided to the campus community.

Luna's campus is open to students and the general public, with advisement, registration, tutoring available both in person and remotely. Mask usage is required indoors for all regardless of vaccination status. Social distancing — 3 feet in classrooms, 6 feet elsewhere — will be required. Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette are also required.

Some classes will be offered in person on campus, while others will be online or hybrid (with both in-person and online availability).

Students, faculty and staff are advised to remain home and contact instructors or employers if they experience possible COVID symptoms. These include fever (100.4 or higher), chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, or diarrhea. Early testing by a health care provider is encouraged, with follow-up contacts to instructors and employers for contact tracing in the event of a positive test.



**Luna nursing students took a lead role in helping the New Mexico Department of Health with local vaccinations this past year, including this drive-through clinic at the old Memorial Middle School site. They will assist with COVID testing as well.**

**MORE: See Page 3**



In partnership with the 100% Medical Action Team, Luna hosts a free COVID vaccination clinic on Aug. 25 at the Allied Health cafeteria.

## College partners with community providers to host vaccination clinic

In partnership with the New Mexico Department of Health and the 100 % Medical Action Team, Luna hosted a free COVID vaccination clinic on Wednesday, Aug. 25, at the Allied Health Sciences cafeteria.

The clinic was open to those 12 and older, including Luna students and employees as well as other community members.

Luna's nursing department has agreed to have its students assist in ongoing COVID testing as part of clinical assignments.

Luna nursing students played a significant role in conducting previous vaccination clinics with the NMDOH over the past year.

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Vaccination is encouraged. For assistance with getting vaccinated, you may visit [vaccinenm.org](http://vaccinenm.org) or call 1-855-600-3453.

While employees are not required to be fully vaccinated, those who have been fully vaccinated are asked to provide proof of vaccination to the campus life safety officer. Those who do not provide such proof will be required to obtain weekly COVID-19 tests, in compliance with the orders of Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham. Exceptions are outlined in the current applicable New Mexico public health order.

Daily online self-screenings and departmental temperature checks, both measures previously implemented on campus, will continue.

Enhanced facilities sanitizing, including routine environmental cleaning, fumigation and sanitizing humidifiers, will be used.

To view Luna's Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan, please visit Luna's website at [LUNA.edu](http://LUNA.edu) and click on the LCC COVID-19 Information link.

**KUMBIA KINGS ALL STARZ**

**POSTPONED**

**MUSIC ON THE GREENS**

**FRANK RAY**

**BRI BAGWELL**

**SAT., AUGUST 28, 2021**  
5 P.M. | NMHU GOLF COURSE  
LAS VEGAS, NM

# Welcome to Luna!

*New freshmen and transfer students, here's your guide to campus*

**T**o our students:  
Welcome to Luna  
Community College!

Thank you for joining us this Fall 2021 semester. We hope you'll soon find that Luna is an excellent choice to begin your higher educational journey, whether your goal is to attain training and credentials for entry into the workforce or to build a foundation toward a college degree.

While Luna continues to strive to remain one of the most affordable colleges in the country, we also strive to provide a welcoming, nurturing environment for every student.

The following is a quick guide

to some of the services and resources available to you as a Luna student.

## **STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER**

Located in the heart of the Luna campus, the Student Success Center is a hub for many services and resources, including advisement, counseling and educational support. Advisers can assist students in creating their class schedules each semester. The center also offers assessment and academic placement testing (Accuplacer), accessibility services for students with disabilities, and early alerts to help keep students on track academically. Student

grievances and concerns can be route to the center for response. And those seeking additional resources can contact the center for referrals as needed. Contact: [studentsuccess@luna.edu](mailto:studentsuccess@luna.edu) or 454-2549.

The center is also home to the Office of Campus Life and information about a number of student clubs and organizations in addition to student government at Luna.

## **OTHER STUDENT SERVICES OFFICES**

Along with the Student Success

**MORE: See Page 5**



**Friendly, helpful advisement — demonstrated here by Education Department adviser Tycie Jackson — is a hallmark of the Luna experience.**

In this file photo image from 2019, the Luna student senate meets to discuss campus activities and other topics. In addition to student government, the college has a number of student clubs and organizations.



**Continued from Page 4**  
Center, the offices of Admissions, Registrar's, Fiscal, Financial Aid, Distance Learning and Veterans' Resource Center are conveniently located in the Luna Student Services Building.

Admissions is typically a student's first contact with the college. Apply for admission and



## Luna campus e-mail

is the primary way the college notifies its students (and employees) about key information. Anything ranging from schedule changes to special event information to job opportunities to campus news is shared via Luna campus e-mail. To sign up for a free Luna e-mail account, go to [LUNA.edu/createStudentAccount](http://LUNA.edu/createStudentAccount). If help setting up the account is required, call Larry Paiz, 505-454-5361.

submit transcripts to this office. Contact: [admissions@luna.edu](mailto:admissions@luna.edu) or 454-2550.

Registrar's oversees registration for classes, adding and dropping courses, withdrawals and changes of contact information, as well as student IDs. The office also oversees the college's compliance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Contact: [registrar@luna.edu](mailto:registrar@luna.edu) or 454-5313.

Financial Aid offers various forms of financial assistance to help students pay for college-related expenses. Students may obtain assistance completing their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and learn of grants, loans and scholarship programs. A voucher program is available to help pay for books and supplies. Contact: [finaid@luna.edu](mailto:finaid@luna.edu) or 454-2539.

Fiscal Office is where students make arrangements to pay for tuition, fees and other educational costs. In order to prevent disenrollment, students must make arrangements prior to posted

deadlines. Contact: [ivaldez@luna.edu](mailto:ivaldez@luna.edu) or 454-2506.

Distance Learning manages student e-mail accounts, assistance with Blackboard classroom technology, and general help with distance learning questions. Contact: [lpaiz@luna.edu](mailto:lpaiz@luna.edu) or 454-5361 or 1-800-588-7232, ext. 1206.

The Veterans Resource Center provides help and support for armed services veterans who pursue college goals at Luna. Contact: [scantu@luna.edu](mailto:scantu@luna.edu) or 454-5343.

## ACADEMIC CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE

Known as the ACE lab or simply ACE, the Academic Center for Excellence provides tutoring services for students in a variety of Luna classes and subjects. Tutor schedules are posted during each semester. ACE is also a good place to meet up for a study session. Contact: [rvarela@Luna.edu](mailto:rvarela@Luna.edu), 454-5306 or 454-2578.

**MORE: See Page 6**



An aerial view shows part of the Luna main campus along with the scenic high country backdrop with the southern Sangre de Cristo range to the left and the far western reaches of the Great Plains to the right.

Continued from Page 5

### **LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER**

The Samuel F. Vigil Learning Resource Center, located just north of the Student Services Building, includes the library and bookstore, among other features. The majority of textbooks and similar materials are purchased online through the website [bookstore.mbsdirect.net/luna.htm](http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/luna.htm). But the onsite bookstore carries medical scrubs, vocational supplies, tools and other equipment required for particular courses of study. Luna merchandise is also available for purchase or orders. Assistance with online ordering through the MBS Direct store is also available. Contact: [books@luna.edu](mailto:books@luna.edu) or 454-2569.

The library offers online services and textbook checkout for the semester as available. Curbside service may also be available; call ahead for details. Contact: [lrc@luna.edu](mailto:lrc@luna.edu) or 454-5333.

### **PRESCHOOL**

Luna offers limited preschool services for its students, employees and the greater service area. The facility serves children ages 2-5 and is licensed through the state Children, Youth and Families Department, a five-star FOCUS school. Children must be potty trained; fees vary. Contact: 454-2504 or 454-2535.

### **WELLNESS CENTER**

Situated to the northwest of the main campus, the two-story Gerald Ortega Wellness Center houses most physical education classes and one of the premier workout facilities in the area. A variety of free weights, machine weights, cardio equipment, combat sports equipment and a basketball court are available. Class enrollment required. The facility is used by the Rough Rider baseball and softball programs. Contact: 425-2517.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS**

Located in the Maria Paiz

Administration Building, the Public Relations office is home of The Luna Light, the official campus newsletter (available online at [LUNA.edu/newsletters](http://LUNA.edu/newsletters)). The office also provides assistance with editing and creation of Luna publications for internal and external audiences — via print, broadcast, web — and manages the college's social media presence. The office also approves postings around campus. Contact: [pr@luna.edu](mailto:pr@luna.edu) or 454-5367.



### **Luna RAVE alerts**

notify subscribers — via text message — about campus closures or delays due to inclement weather or other reasons and other urgent matters. To sign up for RAVE, visit the Student tab at [LUNA.edu](http://LUNA.edu). There is no additional charge for this service. Standard messaging rates apply. Opt out at any time by texting STOP to 226787.



## Back to school!

Luna's nursing department hosts nursing student orientation on Monday, Aug. 16, to help prepare students for the fall semester.

Visit [LUNA.edu](https://LUNA.edu) for more information on nursing and other programs.

Join our team and help us serve our communities!

# Employment opportunities

Positions available at Luna Community College

### FULL-TIME

- Institutional Effectiveness and Research director/IT director ... opened Aug. 6, 2021
- Custodian I ... opened Aug. 3, 2021
- Faculty/staff for College & Career Readiness Institute ... opened July 21, 2021
- Technical electrician ... opened July 14, 2021

### TEMPORARY PART-TIME

- College & Career Readiness Institute math and language arts instructor (2) ... opened Aug. 19, 2021
- Nursing tutor (2) ... opened Aug. 17, 2021
- ACE tutor (11) ... opened Aug. 16, 2021
- Wellness Center technician ... opened July 2, 2021
- Preschool substitute teacher/caretaker ... opened June 29, 2021



### ADJUNCT (per course)

- TBA

Most recent postings listed first. All positions open until filled unless otherwise noted. For more information on each position, please log on to our website at <https://www.luna.edu/jobs>

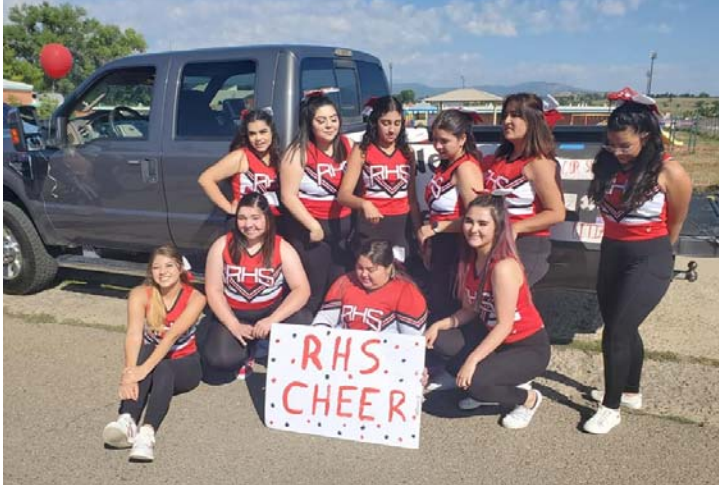


# Parade serves up salute to seniors



The City of Las Vegas honored its senior citizens with a special day of festivities Saturday. Luna President Dr. Edward Martinez led the college's representation in a morning parade, greeting spectators with Luna souvenirs.





**Cheer squads from Robertson and West Las Vegas and the RHS Red Wave Marching Band brought energy to Saturday's parade. At one point, the two groups of cheerleaders engaged in a friendly exchange of "Let's go, Cardinals" and "Let's go, Dons!" chants.**



## NM Cruise features Luna

The NM Cruise, featuring a car show, music and vendors, graced Las Vegas' Railroad district on Aug. 14. Luna's Admissions & Recruitment and CTE department were among the featured exhibitors.

Photos by Jonathan Lujan



# Funding formula in spotlight

SANTA FE, NM — The New Mexico Higher Education Department announced that it will convene a working group this month to evaluate the state's higher education funding formula, which determines annual funding recommendations for state appropriations to the operational budgets of the state's public colleges and universities.

The current formula was established in 2016 and replaced the previous input-based formula with an outcomes-based formula that funds higher education institutions based on results. While small adjustments have been made to the formula since 2016, the current effort represents the first thorough reexamination of the formula since its inception.

"Our agency is working diligently to address the questions brought forth surrounding New Mexico's higher education funding formula," Higher Education Secretary Stephanie Rodriguez said. "I look forward to working with my colleagues to identify data-informed solutions that prioritize students and allocate resources in an equitable and sustainable way."

The outcomes-based formula considers multiple factors including student degree and certificate attainment, number of degrees and certificates awarded in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and Healthcare (STEM-H), total end-of-course student credit hours, the number of degrees and certificates awarded to students from at-risk populations, and other factors that are specific to the mission of each higher education sector, such as progress toward

earning a degree and serving dual credit students.

The working group will meet this month and be facilitated by the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO), a national organization that works with higher education leaders in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

"I applaud New Mexico for taking this proactive step to examine their higher education funding formula," said SHEEO Director Robert Anderson. "Careful consideration of how to utilize these state resources most effectively will serve the needs of both the state and New Mexicans as more students graduate and fill current workforce needs and those that will unfold in a growing economy enabled by more graduates."

Other members include leadership from the New Mexico Council of University Presidents, the New Mexico Independent Community College Association, the New Mexico Association of Community Colleges, the secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration, and the director of the Legislative Finance Committee.

The New Mexico HED and leaders will develop a report for the funding formula. Meetings will take place virtually and be recorded for the public to view. Input will be collected from stakeholders throughout the process.

For more information about New Mexico's higher education funding formula, visit [hed.state.nm.us/resources-for-schools/institutional-finance/nmhed-funding-recommendation](http://hed.state.nm.us/resources-for-schools/institutional-finance/nmhed-funding-recommendation).

## 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](http://collegescorecard.ed.gov)

*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](mailto:jgallegos@luna.edu), and Dave Kavanaugh, [dkavanaugh@luna.edu](mailto:dkavanaugh@luna.edu).*



# ***Covid-19 Guidelines*** Phase 4

In accordance with guidelines issued by the New Mexico Governor's Office, the NM Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), compliance with the following guidelines are required of all individuals on the Luna Community College (LCC) campus. This protocol is implemented to ensure the safety of the LCC campus community. If you do not comply with this safety protocol, entry into offices and classrooms may be refused.

## **Guidelines for Luna Community College**

- Masks are required indoors for all persons on campus.
- Employees may remove masks while alone in a closed office.
- Wash your hands often and thoroughly.
- Practice Respiratory Etiquette.
- Utilize sanitizing stations.
- Socially distance a minimum of six (6) feet in indoor setting and three (3) feet in classrooms
- Masks are not required outdoors.



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## **Instructor Guidelines for Classroom Activity**

- All students are required to sign in before each class and must include their current phone number.
- Individuals shall sanitize their hands upon entering the classroom (supplies are provided).
- Students shall wear masks while in the classroom.
- Should a student refuse to wear a mask while in the classroom, the student will be asked to leave.
- The instructor shall wear a mask at all times.
- All individuals in the classroom shall socially distance a minimum of 3 feet in all directions.
- Instructors will ensure all high touch surfaces shall be sanitized after use (such as desktops, chairs, doorknobs, door facings, handrails, etc., supplies are provided).



# Back to School!



Luna Community College

# College and Career Readiness Institute

## Adult Education Program

### We offer ...

- Adult education for learners 16 years and older
- Preparation for High School Equivalency, better known as the GED or HiSET exam
- Exploration of college and career pathways
- A pipeline to Luna Community College certificate and degree programs
- Classes to improve reading, writing and math skills for high school graduates
- Classes in foundational computer skills as well as English language reading, writing and speaking skills
- Proven methods to improve life and employment

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: How much does it cost?**

A: Nothing!

**Q: How do I register for classes?**

A: Registration is ongoing and completed at <https://forms.gle/WiNER9hS7inzgT9h6> or you can come in to one of our sites and complete the registration in person.

**Q: Where are you located?**

A: We have sites in Las Vegas, Mora, Raton and Santa Rosa.

**Q: What type of classes are being offered?**

A: Reading, writing and math, digital literacy and job skills classes. We offer face-to-face, online and distance learning.

**Q: When do classes start?**

A: We follow the LCC academic calendar with both eight-week face-to-face and online classes starting Aug. 23, Oct. 18, 2021, and Jan. 17 and March 21, 2022.

### For more information:

505-454-2564

lbentson@luna.edu

## Achieve a better future ... one step at a time.





# LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESCHOOL



## NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FALL 2021

FOCUS 5-STAR ACCREDITED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM, 2-5 YEARS OLD

LEAD BY CERTIFIED TEACHERS

ECECD CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

AGE APPROPRIATE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

NUTRITIOUS BREAKFAST, LUNCH, & SNACKS PROVIDED

### CONTACT US:

Belanna Apodaca: 505-454-2535

Brenda Ortega: 505-454-2504



Preschool Hours: Mon-Thur 7:45 a.m.-5:15 p.m., Fri 7:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.



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## exploration, imagination, safety, LOVE....



# BACK TO SCHOOL

WHAT: Free pizza, drinks and other refreshments and fun

WHO: Luna students, faculty and staff

WHEN: **11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.,**  
Wednesday, **Sept. 1**

WHERE: Courtyard area between  
Tech Building and library

WHY: To celebrate the start of a great  
school year at Luna!

*COVID-safe measures  
to be followed*

*Please wear masks!*

# PIZZA PICNIC!

