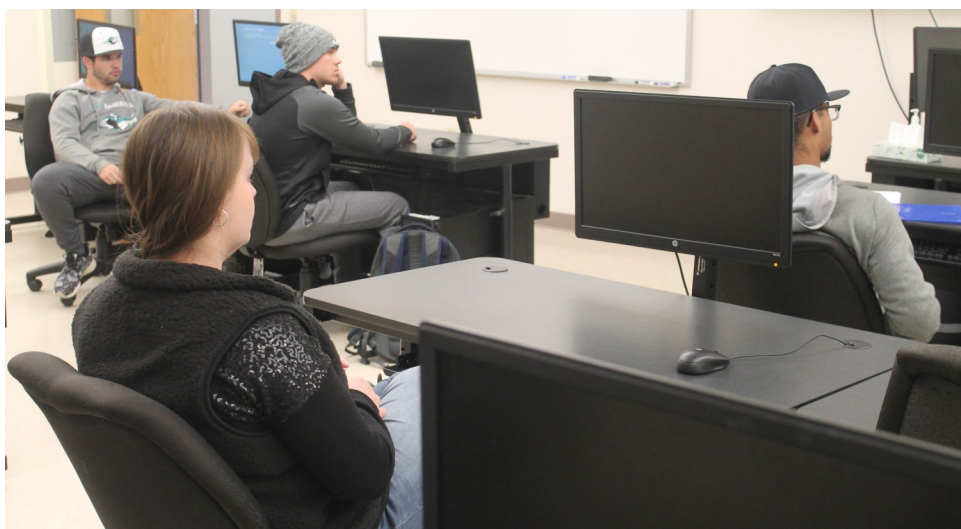


A SARA smile

Luna approved to deliver online instruction to out-of-state students



In this file photo, students interact with a guest lecturer in one of Luna’s Humanities Department classes. The college has secured approval to deliver online instruction to out-of-state students.

Luna Community College has received notification from the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA), approving the college for participation in SARA.

Luna is now approved to deliver online instructional content to students residing outside the state

of New Mexico. While most of Luna’s instructional content is currently delivered online (allowed by temporary waivers authorized due to the COVID-19 pandemic), not all programs are available for full online completion. The AAS degree in Business Administration is the only fully online program Luna currently offers. Luna’s

current agreement with NC-SARA, however, allows out-of-state students to enroll for limited classes and limited work toward program completion with some programs at the college.

NC-SARA is a national council that provides a voluntary, regional approach to state oversight of postsecondary distance education. SARA’s policies help protect students and provide benefits to both states and institutions carrying out distance education in multiple states. As of April 2020, 49 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are members of SARA. Luna Community College is one of more than 2,100 colleges and universities participating in SARA.

Luna operates under the Higher Learning Commission rule restricting the maximum credit hours earned for a degree program

MORE: See Page 3



Members of the New Mexico National Guard wait for individuals to show up for free COVID-19 drive-through testing at Luna Community College. Anyone wanting to get a free COVID-19 test on campus can do so from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Thursday across from the Maria H. Paiz Administration Building, next to the basketball court. Advance registration is encouraged; visit [curative.com](https://www.curative.com) and click on "Get Tested Now" to register.

Luna hosts free COVID testing

Luna Community College is another location where individuals can get a free COVID-19 drive-through test.

Anyone wanting to get a free COVID-19 test at Luna Community College can do so from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Thursday beginning on Jan. 7. COVID-19 tests will take place across from the Maria H. Paiz Administration Building, next to the basketball court.

Those wanting a COVID-19 test must enter through the front bottom gate (east of the campus, off N.M. 65) and exit at the same gate. Individuals must remain in their cars.

The test is a simple, painless, self-collected saliva test. Testing is as follows:

1. Open the swab package and remove the swab.

Free COVID-19 testing

Lot adjacent to Maria H. Paiz admin bldg., LCC main campus

Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

2. Cough several times (to keep the volunteers safe, please cough into your sleeve) and then swab several places inside your mouth.

3. Uncap the lid of the tube and insert the swab tip pointing down.

4. Securely cap the tube and turn it upside down several times to mix specimen with tube solution.

5. Place the tube in the biohazard bag and seal the top.

6. Return the bag to the Curative worker.

Results are available as quickly as 72 hours from the test date.

Individuals are encouraged to register for the test at [curative.com](https://www.curative.com), clicking on "Get Tested Now."

IMPORTANT: Please do not eat or drink for a half-hour before testing.

To provide the COVID-19 testing service, Luna has partnered with the New Mexico Department of Health and other state organizations.

For more information, call 505-454-2500, ext. 1000. Luna is located at 366 Luna Drive in Las Vegas, N.M.

State unveils site for COVID vaccination

Register at vaccinenm.org

Submitted to the Luna Light

SANTA FE — The New Mexico Department of Health announced on Jan. 4 that the state’s vaccination website, vaccinenm.org, now enables users to complete comprehensive personal profiles. These profiles, which include personal medical conditions and employment information, along with other key data, allow the state to notify New Mexicans when vaccine doses become available in their area.

“Our highest priorities remain the same — ensuring that vaccine goes to those who are most exposed to infected people or infectious materials, and preventing vaccine from going to waste,” said DOH Secretary-Designate Dr. Tracie

Collins. “(The website) vaccinenm.org allows us to contact New Mexicans and match them with local vaccination opportunities.”

The site is a registration and inventory management system that enables health care partners to manage real-time vaccine demand while increasing distribution efficiency and minimizing waste. Since its release two weeks ago, vaccinenm.org has seen more than 230,000 registrations — one in every 10 New Mexicans. State officials believe it is the only system of its kind in the country.

For New Mexicans who wish to register for vaccine, the process is simple:

1. Users submit basic contact information, including their employment category and medical conditions
2. Users are then contacted

and prompted to fill out additional demographic and insurance information, at which point their profile is complete. (Vaccinations are free, but providing insurance information helps support the cost of the vaccination program.)

3. Users wait to receive a notification that they may schedule a vaccination. On the day of their appointment, they fill out a medical questionnaire about their current health.

The state will also launch a vaccine call center in the coming days, providing additional support for those who wish to register or ask questions about the process. A news release will accompany the call center launch.

SARA

Continued from Page 1

to be no more than 49 percent of online delivery. Credit hours earned during 2020 are exempt from this restriction, and the AAS degree in

Business Administration, being a fully online program, is exempt.

“This is great news for Luna Community College, as we expand our offerings to students across the nation,” said Luna interim president Dr. Kenneth Patterson.

For more information, call Luna

Community College at 505-454-2501.



Luna Community College includes the Las Vegas main campus, shown, as well as locations in Mora, Santa Rosa and Springer. The college's presidential search is officially under way.

Presidential search under way

Luna Community College's search for a permanent president is officially under way.

Gold Hill Associates, a search firm hired by the Luna Board of Trustees to assist in the search process, placed the advertisement on its website Jan. 7, providing a profile on the college, qualifications needed and application process.

The qualifications and characteristics listed are as follows.

* The successful candidate for president will be a visionary and ethical leader with integrity who is compassionate and intelligent with a

proven track record in a time of change.

* The successful candidate will have an understanding of the history, traditions and culture of northern New Mexico or a similar size rural institution and community and is expected to live within the LCC service area.

* The successful candidate will have strong and demonstrated written and oral communication and listening skills and an understanding of strategic and campus master planning.

* The successful candidate will have the ability to inspire optimism and enthusiasm and personal courage and decisiveness.

* The successful candidate will have an understanding and the ability to develop legislative, community and donor relations.

* The ideal candidate will ultimately be dedicated to serving the long-term needs and success of LCC with integral and absolute commitment as a true advocate and champion of the school. It will be critical that the president

MORE: See Page 5

Search

Continued from Page 6

understand current and emerging topics in higher education, related to assessment, retention and completion with a penchant for lifelong learning and personal growth for themselves and all employees.

* An earned doctorate or other terminal degree from a regionally accredited university is required.

* At least three years of higher education senior level experience including experience in managing the financial and budgeting operations and possess entrepreneurial and analytical skills necessary to identify and implement new revenue opportunities. Community college experience preferred.

* Higher education teaching experience preferred but not required.

Applicants must submit the following for review:

1. A current résumé/vita.
2. A detailed cover letter addressing opportunities, challenges, characteristics and qualifications (limit five pages).

3. A list of five professional references, including names, email address, and telephone numbers.

The target date for applications is Monday, Feb. 15, 2021. For additional information about the search, please visit luna.edu or collegepresidentsearch.com.

Application materials should be submitted electronically to walter@goldhillassociates.com

For additional information, nominations or confidential

inquiries, contact Dr. Walter Nolte, walter@goldhillassociates.com, (307-262-2576) or Dr. Preston Pulliams, President/CEO, Gold Hill Associates, preston@goldhillassociates.com, (503-704-3425).

Dr. Kenneth Patterson is currently serving as interim president at Luna.

Luna Community College is the only community college in northeastern New Mexico. It is located in the lower slopes of the majestic Sangre de Cristo mountain range overlooking the city of Las Vegas, New Mexico. Luna Community College enjoys an outstanding reputation for its caliber of facilities, teaching methods, curricula, and dedication to excellence.

Spring registration ongoing

Spring 2021 registration is now under way at Luna Community College.

Early enrollment began on Nov. 16 and will continue through the end of the day Tuesday, Jan. 26.

Classes begin on Tuesday, Jan. 19.

In order to help ensure the health and safety of everyone in the campus community, the college will continue to offer most of its classes via online instruction. A limited number of classes will include on-site instruction but will include protocols to help ensure health and safety. Registration — along with other student services and programs — will be conducted

remotely.

Students are invited to visit luna.edu and click on the “How To Register” links for more information and instructions. An updated schedule of classes is also available at luna.edu.

Luna offers certificate and associate degree programs in allied health sciences, business, career and technical education, early childhood and teacher education, humanities, nursing and STEM.

Tuition rates, starting at \$40 per credit hour, are among the lowest in the country.

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.

College & Career Readiness

Online orientation sessions offered to the public Jan. 13-16

Are you looking to earn your high school equivalency or GED?

Are you 16 years or older and looking to explore the college and career options available?

Do you want to refresh your reading, writing and math skills to become more employable?

If so, an upcoming orientation session may answer your questions and get you started in Luna Community College's College and Career Readiness Institute.

Three options are available for the orientation. Participants may attend from 10 a.m. to noon on Jan. 13, 14 and 15 OR 6 to 9 p.m. Jan. 14 and 15 OR 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 16.

Those interested simply need to install and access

Zoom on their computer or smart phone and enter the following site:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88929503087?pwd=aXlIM0Y4MzZlVhQk1QyRkhaOWQ1dz09>

The orientation sessions will enable participants to meet fellow classmates and instructors, learn more about program services and tools to plan a successful experience in the program.

For more information on the Luna College and Career Readiness Institute and the orientation, you may contact program manager Lisa Bentson, lbentson@luna.edu or 505-454-2564.

College and Career Readiness Institute at Luna Community College Program Orientation & Onboarding

Virtual Meeting on ZOOM

January 13, 14, 15, 2021 10 a.m. - noon

or

January 14, 15, 2021 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

or

January 16, 2021 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Orientation & Onboarding Objectives

- 1) Get to know your fellow classmates and instructors
- 2) Learn more about program services
- 3) Receive the tools to plan your journey to success

Program Services

- 1) Adult Education for learners 16 year or older
- 2) Prepare for High School Equivalency (HSE)
- 3) Explore College & Career Pathways
- 4) Enter LCC Degree or Certificate Programs
- 5) Refresh reading, writing and math skills for high school graduates
- 6) Build foundational computer skills and English-language reading, writing, and speaking skills
- 7) Improve life and employment skills

Join us at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88929503087?pwd=aXlIM0Y4MzZlVhQk1QyRkhaOWQ1dz09>

For more information call: 505.454.2564 or email: lbentson@luna.edu

#MoveAhead with
ADULTED

Luna honors retirees

Flores Medina, Kuhlman, Luna, Maestas, Segura longtime employees

“Take time to get to know your colleagues ... There are ups and downs (at work), but you can make it what it is ... Stay involved or get involved and be involved.”

Elaine Luna, who is retiring later this month after years as director of the Area Health Education Center, offered up those words of advice Dec. 17 as part of an online gathering hosted by the LCC Staff Senate. Luna is one of several veteran employees who have announced their retirement from the college either in late 2020 or the early part of 2021.

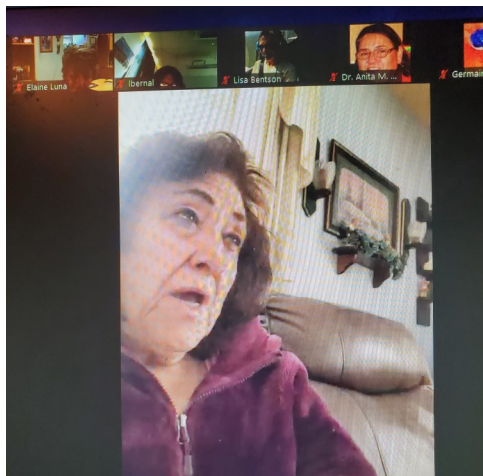
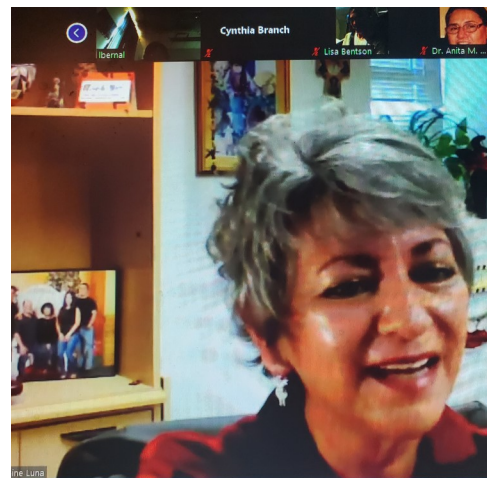
Others are Donna Flores Medina, vice president of finance; Patricia Kuhlman, faculty; Marvin Maestas, custodian; Nash Segura, admissions and recruitment.

Luna will conclude 24 years of employment on Jan. 29. She said she intends to spend time with family, including children who live in Seattle, New Zealand and Las Vegas.

Flores Medina, who's spent 19 of her 20.5 years at Luna in administration, is retiring Feb. 1. She plans to volunteer at a family planning center.

Kuhlman had been at Luna nearly 21 years; she retired after this past semester. She said she will miss the students and may consider returning to teaching at some point.

Maestas will retire Feb. 1 after



Among the employees retiring from Luna this year are (clockwise from top left): Donna Flores Medina, Elaine Luna and Patricia Kuhlman. The college's staff senate and interim President Dr. Kenneth Patterson recognized them and other retiring employees in an online gathering Dec. 17.

more than 18 years on the job. He said he wants to rest and spend time with family, but will remain active around the house and doing side jobs.

Segura retired on Sept. 30 after working at Luna more than 11 and a half years, initially for the campus bookstore and more recently in admissions. He also plans family time, home projects, walking and travel.

Dr. Kenneth Patterson, interim

president, joined the staff senate in saluting the retirees. He said the combined institutional knowledge these retirees have amassed will be difficult to replace.

The Zoom gathering was open to all Luna employees and took place in lieu of the usual on-campus holiday luncheon. Staff Senate President Georgia Baca invited those in attendance to show off their ugly Christmas sweaters and share a toast to continued success.

Luna to be closed Monday, Jan. 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Luna Community College in Las Vegas and its campuses in Mora, Santa Rosa and Springer will be closed on Monday, Jan. 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

The college will resume its regular hours on Tuesday, Jan. 19.

Spring registration continues through the end of the day Tuesday, Jan. 26. Classes begin on Tuesday, Jan. 19.



Join our team and help us serve our communities!

Employment opportunities

Positions available at Luna Community College

FULL-TIME

- Area Health Education Center (AHEC) director ... opened Dec. 8, 2020
- Career services advisor ... opened Nov. 9, 2020; re-posted Nov. 30, 2020
- Chief financial officer ... opened Oct. 29, 2020
- Institutional Effectiveness and Research director ... opened July 28, 2020; re-posted Oct. 8, 2020

PART-TIME

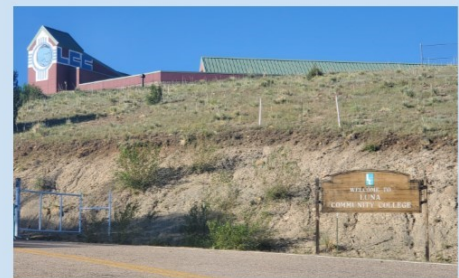
- Administrative assistant 2, Human Resources ... opened Dec. 2, 2020

TEMPORARY PART-TIME

- Preschool substitute teacher/ caretaker ... opened Sept. 30, 2020

ADJUNCT (per course)

- Career & Technical Education — automotive instructor, Springer ... opened Nov. 21, 2019
- Career & Technical Education — welding instructor, Santa Rosa ... opened Oct. 31, 2019
- Career & Technical Education — CDL instructor ... opened August 28, 2019



- Career & Technical Education — collision repair instructor ... opened June 6, 2018

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>



LCC Library Curbside Pickup



LCC Library has curbside pickup of books and DVDs for staff. Students registered for current classes can also take advantage of this service. Pickup is currently available from 8 to 3, Monday through Friday. For more information, instructions and procedures, visit luna.edu/lrc.



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

Stay connected this school year!



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 LCC e-mail.

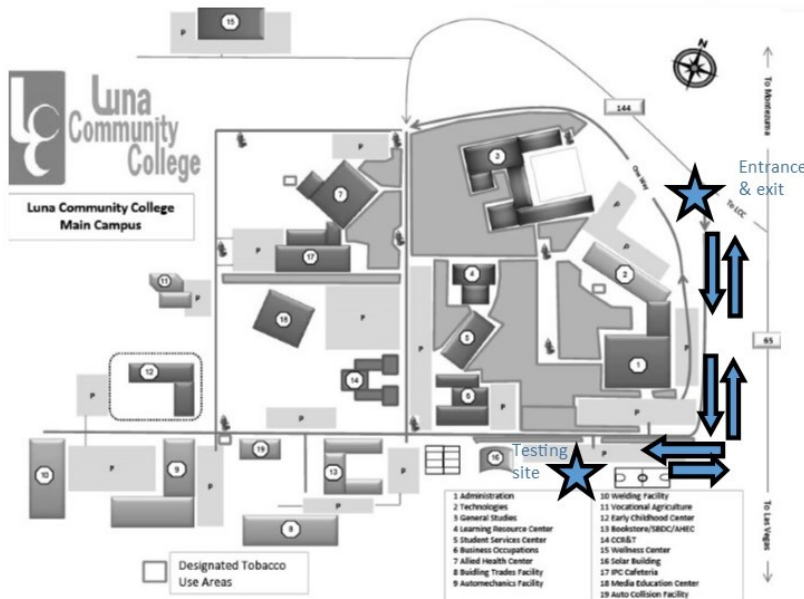
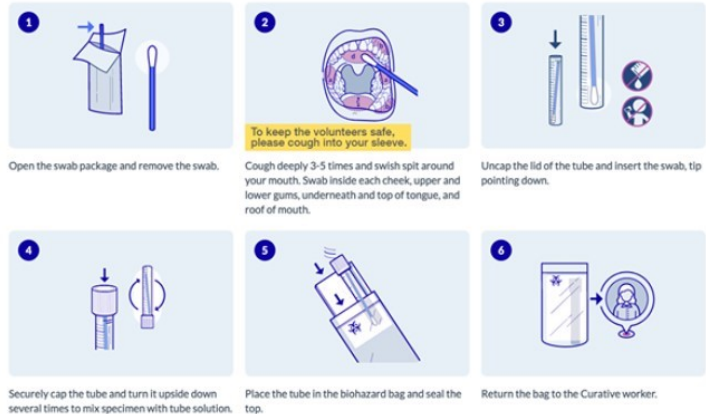
To sign up for a free Luna e-mail account, go to luna.edu/createStudentAccount. If help setting up the account is required, call Larry Paiz, 505-454-5361.



FREE COVID-19 TESTING

- Free self-collected saliva test
- Drive-through for safety and convenience (remain in your vehicle)
- Simple, quick, painless

Fast, Simple, Painless Testing



- Access campus through front (east-side) bottom gate
- Testing site is in the lot across from the Maria H. Paiz Admin Bldg., next to the basketball court

Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., starting Jan. 7
@ Luna Community College

You're encouraged to register at [curative.com](https://www.curative.com) (click on "Get Tested Now.")
Please do not eat or drink for a half-hour before testing.



It's been a challenging time for all of us.

At Luna Community College, we can certainly attest to that. But smooth seas don't make skilled sailors. Sometimes you've got to go through tests to find out how tough you really are. Sometimes those tests make you realize what is truly important. They make you ...

STRONGER.

Luna is proud to announce that the college is once again accredited free of sanctions by the Higher Learning Commission. Our resolve to serve our students and our communities is **stronger** than ever. We are excited to help you pursue and achieve your dreams in 2021 and beyond. Whether you're seeking training to get into the workforce, working toward a higher academic degree, or simply wanting to broaden your horizons by learning something new, Luna is here for you. Build a **stronger** future; let's make it happen together.

SPRING 2021 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Classes start Jan. 19. Register through Jan. 26.

Tuition rates start at just \$40 a credit hour.

Visit LUNA.edu for details, or call

505-454-2500 or 1-800-588-7232.

