

**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** SOCCCD COVID and Return to Work Update  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 1:09:14 PM

---

Greetings SOCCCD Employees:

In light of the increase in COVID cases and the trend in positivity rates of the Delta variant—SOCCCD will delay the full return to worksites until some metrics have improved county-wide.

I have asked the leadership at both colleges to phase in some of their original fall return-to-campus plans more slowly until our county data improves and the metrics fall to a daily case rate of fewer than 10 per 100,000 on a seven (7) day average throughout Orange County. Additionally, we will look for a positivity rate of less than five percent (5%) county-wide on a seven (7) day average. We expect that these metrics will be met sometime in late September/early October 2021. Updates will be provided as necessary to ensure that you are informed about plans to return to onsite work districtwide.

I understand that last minute changes in plans can be unsettling, but we continue to be flexible and to respond to the changes in the data as it impacts the health and safety of all who learn and work with us. Please look for messaging from your college or district leaders about specific changes in fall return-to-campus plans that impact students and employees. Some employees who directly serve and support students will still be returning to campus. Some employees may have their schedules partially changed. Managers will be working rapidly to let all employees know how they will be impacted as soon as possible. I anticipate that the colleges will be implementing all return-to-campus plans once our metrics improve.

While we understand that this change could cause an inconvenience to you, please know that your health and safety remain a priority and fewer employees on campus during this time helps us to do our part in slowing the spread.

To remain up-to-date with county numbers related to positive COVID-19 cases, please visit [www.ochealthinfo.org](http://www.ochealthinfo.org).

Additionally, please remember to check the [\*Return to Work Guidelines\*](#) for updates and requirements for working onsite.

Thank you for your time and patience and please alert us of any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Kathleen F. Burke, Ed.D.  
Chancellor