

11/24/2020

Dear Union County College Community,

As we get ready to celebrate Thanksgiving, I want to take a moment to offer thanks to you. Your work during this semester and throughout this historic pandemic has been nothing short of heroic. From our employees' laser-like focus on assisting our students, to our students determination in overcoming every obstacle, Union County College Owls have linked arms, stepped up, and worked together.

Employees— thank you for your tireless dedication to our students and our Mission. You have the thanks of our grateful students.

Students—thank you for your perseverance, your grit, and your fortitude. You have the admiration of all of our faculty and staff.

We recognize that this is a most unusual semester, but since Thanksgiving is about giving thanks, I hope you all are able to find something you are thankful for even in these difficult times. As you celebrate, please keep in mind that Governor Murphy has limited indoor gatherings to 10 people. I know Thanksgiving is designed for gathering with our loved ones, but we all need to think about our plans in light of the new restrictions and make smart decisions to keep ourselves, our loved ones, and our community safe. Please remember that our choices outside of the College, when it comes to gathering and wearing masks, can have a direct impact on our College community.

As always, students, please remember that the faculty and staff are here to help you. Communicate with your instructors if you are having any issues or difficulty in your classes.

Campus operations this week

Please see the email sent on Nov. 17 for the list of changes to operations through January 4, 2021.

For this week, please note:

- Wednesday, November 25 – All campuses will be closed. All offices will be remote. No classes are scheduled.
- Thursday, November 26-Sunday, November 29 – The College will be totally closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Winter & Spring Registration is now OPEN

If you would like to get ahead or make up a class or two, winter session is a great time to do so. Earn those credits in under 3 weeks. Visit www.ucc.edu/winter for more info. Remember the payment deadline for winter classes is Dec. 3.

Spring registration is open. Learn more here: www.ucc.edu/spring. The payment deadline is Dec. 30 – register now, make your ideal schedule, and pay later. This spring, we are offering 4 types of classes.

One of which is a new option:

- **Face-to-face** (traditional classroom environment)
- **Online** (via computer; no required meeting times)
- **Remote live** (via computer; scheduled class day(s) & times w/ a live instructor)
- **HyFlex ***new for spring***** (combines face-to-face & remote live instruction. Gives students the option of registering for a face-to-face or remote live session taught simultaneously by the same instructor. Students may move from face-to-face to remote live but not from remote live to face-to-face)

COVID-19 Testing

As a service provided by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, free COVID-19 testing is available to all residents of Union County.

- **Drive-thru testing at Kean:** Currently offered Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9am-4pm at Kean by appointment only. You may be tested for COVID-19, Influenza A, and Influenza B with the same swab. <https://ucnj.org/covid19/testing/drive-in-kean-location/>
- **Mobile walk-up testing:** No appointment needed. Masks required. No eating or drinking 30 mins before testing & you must bring your smart phone. Check this site for info & upcoming testing locations: <https://ucnj.org/covid19/testing/walk-up-locations/>

COVID Alert App

The State of New Jersey has an app for COVID exposure notifications. I encourage everyone to download it: <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/app>

Student Needs

As a reminder, fall students are eligible to complete a CARES Act application [here](#) and receive financial assistance to cover expenses such as rent, utilities, and food if you have needs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you need assistance completing the application or have additional questions, please contact our social worker LeeAnn Trott at leeann.trott@ucc.edu or 908-709-7139.

Employees

We are here to help. If you or your family is having difficulty, please contact Karlene Rambaran in HR at 908-709-7144.

Be well and take care of yourselves.

Sincerely,
Dr. Margaret M. McMenamin
President