



STATE BOARD OF CAREER COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

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MEMORANDUM

To: All Registered Schools

From: John Ware, Executive Director
State Board of Career Colleges and Schools

Subject: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Guidance

Date: March 13, 2020

NOTIFICATION FROM THE OHIO STATE BOARD OF CAREER COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS REGARDING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) IMPACTING INSTITUTIONAL OPERATIONS

The Ohio State Board of Career Colleges and Schools (OSBCCS) has prepared the following information and resources in response to matters pertaining to the Coronavirus (COVID-19). For career colleges and schools approved by the OSBCCS, generally all schools must obtain authorization prior to changing the mode of delivery (e.g. onsite instruction vs online learning) for approved programs/courses as outlined in the Ohio Administrative Rules (OAC 3332-1-06). However, in the interest of public health and safety, the OSBCCS is temporarily (not to exceed May 31, 2020) allowing all approved institutions to offer alternative instruction methods if an institution deems online or remote distance education instruction necessary and feasible. Furthermore, institutions that choose to proceed with online or remote distance education must make reasonable and necessary accommodations to assure students have adequate and appropriate access to all online or remote resources or coursework and communicate all institutional response plans in a timely manner to their campus community. At this time, OSBCCS is not requiring formal notification of any changes to the normal academic operations of OSBCCS entities including changes to modality, program/course cancellations or suspensions, and temporary closure.

Please also note that online and remote learning may not be feasible for all courses and programs. For classes where extensive laboratory work or hands-on training is required and distance learning is not possible, classes may need to be suspended or canceled and rescheduled. Schools are encouraged to review all of their programs and courses and determine what the best possible solutions are for the students and faculty. In addition, for

programs that also require approval by accreditors, other state agencies, or the US Department of Education, schools may also need to review guidance provided by those regulatory entities as well.

Should documentation of state approval be required by your accrediting body or the U.S. Department of Education, please use this OSBCCS notification.

For additional information and resources regarding the Coronavirus, refer to the following:

- Ohio Department of Healths COVID-19 web site:
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/>
- U.S Department of Education: <https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/summary.html>
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>
- COVID-19: Guidance for SEVP Stakeholders: <https://www.ice.gov/sevis/whats-new>

If you have questions or need further information please contact John Ware at john.ware@scr.state.oh.us