

From: [Chancellor-Internal Communication](#)
To: UCSFSTAFF@LISTSRV.UCSF.EDU
Subject: UCSF Actions Align with "Shelter in Place" Order
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 8:04:02 PM

Dear UCSF community,

Daily changes in the evolving COVID-19 landscape have become the norm, in a situation that looks anything but normal.

As local and state leaders issue new orders and policies, it is important to understand the details, so please take a moment to read what follows.

UCSF is exempted under the ["shelter in place" order](#) announced by six Bay Area counties, as are many other "essential" services. That means UCSF employees can come to work if their jobs require them to be on-site. But, as I instructed last week, [managers and employees are to reduce work performed on-site](#) at UCSF as much as possible. Similarly, Governor Gavin Newsom's request for individuals aged 65 and older to stay at home exempts those who work in "essential" services such as health care, including UCSF employees.

Our teams have determined that the [actions we have been taking](#) are consistent with the order announced yesterday. We are delaying or suspending non-essential work and creating conditions to allow for social distancing practices for those who need to work on-site.

Asking people to stay home when possible increases the opportunity for social distancing. As the "shelter in place" order states, maintain at least six feet from people when you go outside, even for exercise, which is allowed under the public health order. In addition to hand washing with soap, social distancing has proven to be very effective against the novel coronavirus. Until a vaccine is available, we must take these steps to "flatten the curve" of infection growth.

Remember, the best way to stay current is to visit the [UCSF COVID-19 website](#), which includes recently updated guidance on [large events](#), [library closure](#), [shuttle hours](#), [deliveries](#), [remote IT access](#), and the [new UC employee leave policy](#). Another important action being taken is the redeployment of staff from low volume areas to places where capacity is stretched. Managers, please reach out to COVIDLabor@ucsf.edu for guidance if you can redeploy staff.

Amid all the rapid changes reshaping our lives, I see something that has remained the same. As a part of the UCSF family for more than 40 years, I see in the mobilization against COVID-19 the same commitment and compassion that have driven us to lead during past public health challenges.

I am proud of how UCSF is meeting the challenges of this pandemic and grateful for the service of all our teams, from our professional, education, and research colleagues to our incredible and courageous care providers who are leading from the front.

As we confront a public health challenge that will likely expand, I ask that you look after yourself and those around you, with generosity and kindness, at a time when we all need it most.

Sincerely,

Sam Hawgood, MBBS
Chancellor
Arthur and Toni Rembe Rock Distinguished Professor

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