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ACHA COVID-19 Update: July 15, 2020

These updates have been provided by ACHA's COVID-19 Task Force. Please forward this message to others on campus who may benefit. Non-members can subscribe to receive these and other messages [here](#). We will continue to update the [COVID-19 webpage](#) with important alerts and resources.

ACHA COVID-19 Virtual Summit

See the Agenda for ACHA's Virtual Summit

ACHA, in partnership with the American Council on Education (ACE), is hosting a two-day [virtual summit](#) delving into the many topics that must be considered when preparing for the fall, complete with valuable, actionable takeaways. Learn about national health guidance and recommendations, collaborate with other institutions, and come away with crucial insights to prepare your campus for the upcoming semester. The [summit agenda](#) is now available.

The event will take place July 28–29, from 12:30–4:30 pm EDT each day. ACHA members are eligible for discounted registration. Act now—registration ends July 21!

Thank you to the event sponsors for their generous support:



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Student
Resources



Data, Numbers, and Epidemiology

Resolve to Prevent Epidemics Metrics and Science Review

The [Science Review](#) for the week of July 4-10 includes “Update on airborne transmission of COVID-19: evidence and implications for precautions” and “Expanding social networks safely through bubbles.”

See also: [Key Metrics as of July 11](#)

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COVID Index Study

This Axios-Ipsos [study](#) (the 16th iteration) was conducted between July 10 and July 13. Recent results are at the beginning, with survey results going back in time further down the page. The interesting number and timely finding from the current survey, 71% of parents surveyed believe sending their child back to school in the fall is a large or moderate risk.

Testing and Tracking/Tracing

Failures of the COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing System

Senator Patty Murray of Washington, the ranking Democrat on the Senate HELP (Health, Education, Labor and Pensions) Committee, released [this report](#) which enumerates the multiple system failures since the beginning of the pandemic and ends with several testing recommendations, including evaluating the supply chain, centralizing leadership, implementing a national testing strategy, improving the infrastructure, and increasing funding. Recommendations begin on page 25 and are not confined to testing but also include recommendations for vaccine development, production, and delivery and building the capability to manage future pandemics. College health centers have been calling for testing recommendations #8 and #9 for some time.

CDC Releases Contact Tracings Communications Toolkit

CDC has created [templated health marketing messages/communications](#) for telephone, print media and social media to encourage individuals to work with public health. Some key messages are "answer the call", "be part of the solution". It also has a list of key actions.

Reopening

CDC COVID-19 Partner Update Call July 13, 2020: Considerations on Keeping Students Safe for Fall

On this [partner update](#), Dr. Brooks shared updates on CDC's COVID-19 response, including the latest scientific information and what everyone should know about protecting themselves and others. In addition, Dr. Sauber-Schatz reviewed CDC's interim guidance, as well as testing considerations, for K-12 schools and Institutes of Higher Education (IHE).

Social Distancing Survey

EAB provided this [survey](#) of 70 institutions and their plans to encourage social distancing. They uncovered three trends: the majority will provide COVID-19 welcome kits and implement social norming campaigns to promote physical distancing, and there is no clear consensus on enforcement.

Student Survey on Returning to Campus

Another Axios [survey](#) from July 13-14 (though with little detail about how the survey was conducted) shows that most students surveyed indicated that they are ready to return to campus amid the pandemic. Of note: 79% say they would not attend parties if they happen, 71% say they would not attend sports events, and 95% say they currently wear masks when they can't socially distance.

List of College Reopening Plans

The Chronicle continues to [track individual colleges' reopening plans](#). As of July 15, the number of campuses planning in-person only instruction has dropped from a high of 67% before Memorial Day to 56%.

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Internal CDC School Document

This internal [CDC document](#) obtained by the New York Times, entitled CRAFT (Community Interventions and Critical Populations Task Force) Schools Briefing Packet, was intended to provide briefings for federal public health response teams deployed to hot spots. It also includes examples of several IHE reopening plans including HBCUs, publics, privates, community colleges, and TCUs. Notably, it is misdated as a July 2019 document. The talking points beginning on page 16 are the most interesting.

Reopening IHEs During the Pandemic

This Annals of Internal Medicine [article](#) is a follow-up piece to “How to Safely Reopen Colleges and Universities During COVID-19: Experiences from Taiwan” shared in the update from [last week](#). The authors advocate to reopen but to do so prudently. They seem to have a good grasp of the complex issues surrounding reopening decisions.

Johns Hopkins Podcast on Reopening

Lucia Mullen and Dr. Crystal Watson of the Johns Hopkins Center for Health and Security discuss facets of reopening and the Open Smart ED guidelines the Center released last month in this 14-minute [podcast](#).

Prevention and Treatment

New York Times Vaccine Tracker

The New York Times has created an [interactive coronavirus vaccine tracker](#) to quickly see which development phase vaccines are in.

Moderna’s Vaccine Led Recipients to Produce Antibodies

According to this [data](#) from an early-stage trial of Moderna’s COVID-19 vaccine, those who received the vaccine produced antibodies to the coronavirus. The vaccine appeared to cause minor side effects in many patients.

Aerosol Transmission of COVID-19

This [NPR piece](#) gives some practical suggestions to decrease risk of infection through aerosol transmission. The suggestions are simple and easy enough to convey to students or laypeople in public health messaging.

Universal Masking

This JAMA [article](#) by CDC officials John Brooks, Jay Butler, and Robert Redfield make another call for universal masking to decrease the transmission of SARS-CoV-2. They briefly review three studies, one from JAMA showing masking reduced transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in Mass General Brigham, one from the MMWR reporting on two Missouri hair stylists with COVID-19, and a CDC survey revealing general acceptance of face coverings. They had three actionable insights:

1. Public health officials and leaders must ensure that the public clearly understands when and how to properly wear cloth face coverings and continue building the evidence base for their effectiveness.
2. Innovation is needed to extend their physical comfort and ease of use
3. The public needs consistent, clear, and appealing messaging that normalizes community masking.

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Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) Early Release

This [MMWR](#) supports the call for face coverings to decrease the risk of transmission of SARS-CoV-2. It looked at 139 clients who were served by two symptomatic hairstylists. All clients and both hair stylists wore face coverings. Both hair stylists ultimately tested positive for COVID-19. Overall, 67 clients (48%) volunteered to undergo PCR testing. All tested negative. All 139 were asked to quarantine for two weeks. Public health implications: As stay-at-home restrictions ease, face-covering policies could mitigate the spread of SARS-CoV-2.

See all updates here: https://www.acha.org/ACHA/Resources/Topics/COVID-19_Update.aspx

ACHA COVID-19 Page: <https://www.acha.org/COVID-19>



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