

April 2, 2020

Dear Students,

These are difficult times and I hope you are healthy, safe and progressing with your class work. As we all continue to adjust our lives and routines in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, I'd like to share some campus updates and community resources with you.

Spring Session II

Distance learning will continue through Spring II, June 20- August 10, 2020. Some courses that were unable to run in Spring I are expected to return to campus in Spring II, including some lab and music courses.

Spring II registration is available online now through <u>CUNYfirst</u> and you are encouraged to contact your advisor on <u>My LaGuardia</u> for guidance. I want to encourage you to talk to your advisor and sign-up for a class. This is the best way to earn credits and maintain progress towards completing your degree.

Tuition Refund Policy

The Tuition Refund Policy for the College as listed in the <u>College Catalog</u> remains in place for the Spring 2020 semester, as are the Academic Appeal, Financial Aid Appeal, and Tuition Liability Appeal processes.

If you have documented COVID-19 illness yourself, you can apply for a Medical Withdrawal or Leave of Absence. If you have COVID-19 related issues, such as direct care for high risk family with the illness or increased job duties as a first responder resulting from the pandemic, you can file an appeal. Appeals based on a change of course modality (from in-person to distance learning) will not be considered.

Mental Health

In addition to our <u>Wellness Center</u>, there are several resources available to you and all New Yorkers feeling stressed, anxious, or somehow distressed. <u>NYC Well</u> offers a free tele-counseling helpline; they can provide brief counseling and referrals in over 200 languages.

- Call 888-NYC-WELL (888-692-9355), available 24 hours/day
- Text "WELL" to 65173
- Chat at <u>NYC.gov/nycwell</u>





Pandemic Unemployment Assistance

A new law includes an additional unemployment benefit, called Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), that is available to those who are not typically eligible for unemployment insurance including part time workers and those who were not working for an extended period. Impacted students can apply by phone or online. Please review <u>PUA criteria</u> and details from the <u>New York State Department of Labor</u>.

Please continue to stay updated by checking the <u>Student</u> and <u>Campus</u> Resources pages on our website, which are updated regularly, and check the <u>Community</u> Resources section to find out about support throughout NYC.

I am so very proud of our LaGuardia community for working together through this time to ensure that learning continues, and students move one step closer to their goals.

Best,

Dr. Paul Arcario Interim President