

Dear PIC Students & Staff,

First and foremost, I hope this update finds you, your family and friends all still safe and healthy. I writing to inform that the school will not be re-opening as hoped on April 1st, 2020. Yesterday, we learned The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, by order of the Health Officer and Emergency Regulations extended their order and ***continuing until further notice*** that "ALL public or private schools, colleges, and universities shall not hold classes or other school activities where students gather on campus." Therefore, as a result of this order, I'm saddened to tell you that PIC will remain closed "***until further notice.***"

As I explained in my last update, realistically, I did not expect that we would be able to re-open PIC on April 1st, 2020. Because this most recent order is open-ended, I am automatically extending all student Leaves of Absence through the month of April. Tentatively, I am scheduling a return to school date of **May 3rd for Evening students** and **May 4th for day-time students**. Honestly, I have no idea if these return dates are realistic; however, for administrative and regulatory reasons, we MUST stipulate a return date for Leaves of absence. If (which I personally, highly doubt,) we are allowed to reopen before these dates then you always have the option to return to school at that time. As I discussed in the prior update, whenever we are allowed to reopen the school, you always have the option to wait until YOU personally are comfortable doing so (Up to 180 days from the original LOA start date per current USDOE regulations). As I explained before, **you need to do nothing to extend your LOA at this time**. Administrative staff will update everyone's status per this emergency regulation/order.

For those of you currently participating in Temporary Distance Learning (TDE), I am sad to inform you that I have decided to temporarily postpone TDE. Unfortunately, the LAB platform has been experiencing continued technical difficulties, and despite multiple communications and requests to Pivot Point for assurance the problem(s) have been fixed, I have not received those necessary assurances. Therefore, we are suspending TDE until further notice. PIC lead instructional and managerial staff are working with Pivot Point Leadership to resolve the problems. If we are given confidence that the technical issues related to the LAB learning program can be resolved AND we are given the authority to provide practical instruction by the California Board of Barbering and Cosmetology, we hope to recommence Temporary Distance Education in the near future. Without such assurances by Pivot Point or authority by the State Board, I cannot in good conscience continue online training while striving towards our mission statement. So, we are completely closing the school until further notice.

Some students have contacted me expressing a desire to pick up their student kits, books and or personal items from their lockers. This can be arranged on an appointment, curbside pick-up basis. (Just like restaurants). Simply email me (Ray@pic.edu) your locker number and combination lock code, and I or staff can bag your items and arrange a curbside pickup appointment for you.

Again, we miss you all and hope to recommence Temporary Distance Learning and normal school operations as soon as possible. In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy. We will provide another update as soon as we have new information to share.

Sincerely,

Ray Stainback
President/CEO
Palomar Institute of Cosmetology