



Center for Employment Training

Central Administration

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May 22, 2020

CET Students, Staff and Communities:

After nearly 10 weeks of Shelter-in-Place, we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. COVID-19 testing is more available, hospitalization capacity is improving, and more States are beginning to move into Phase 3 which means that more sectors will be gradually re-opening. Although businesses will be allowed to re-open, we must continue our social distancing practices in the interest of public health and safety as well as our own.

Many of our Financial Aid eligible students have already or will be soon receiving their CARES Act emergency financial aid grants from the Department of Education. Please remember to use these funds for expenses related to the disruption of education due to COVID-19 such as food, housing, technology, health care, and child-care expenses.

Distance Education hasn't been easy but health and safety is a top priority. We understand that each and every one of you is waiting for hands-on training. Although the Department of Education has extended their temporary approval for distance learning through December 2020, we are anticipating changes in Local/State ordinances that will allow CET to resume limited on-site activities. During the next week, CET plans on releasing our phase-in protocol. Prior to re-opening, we must ensure that:

- We conduct a risk assessment for every campus/classroom
- Our facilities are fully sanitized with a regular and frequent cleaning/disinfecting schedule
- Our facilities are prepared for social distancing guidelines
- Staff are properly trained with our new safety protocols
- We have an adequate supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for staff and students

During our planning process, we are strategizing to bring back students interested in participating in small groups with staggered/block schedules in alignment with Local and State ordinances. What this means is that students will be able to conduct on-site, hands-on activities for a few hours/week in limited numbers per group. Students will still be able to complete theory and other written assignments online through our Learning Management System, CANVAS, as long as we have our temporary approval from the Department of Education. As social distancing protocols relax, we will be able to increase the time of our on-site, hands-on instruction.

During this time, we have learned a lot about what we can do for you, our students. You have been amazing. Every one of us respects the perseverance, commitment, and fortitude that you have shown in remaining in training and giving your best. We know that you are anxious to return to your classrooms, instructors, and classmates. The relationships that you have built and continue to build are valuable. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we all try to navigate through this pandemic together. This too, shall pass and we will no longer be apart, but together. Please remain in close contact with your instructors and our center staff for updates; we are hopeful for changes to come soon. Enjoy your Memorial Day weekend and let us remember those honorable men and women who have given their lives serving our Country.

Respectfully,

Hermelinda Sapien
President/CEO

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Chief Operations Officer