

Resolution of the Governing Board of the Pima County Community College District Regarding the COVID 19 Pandemic

WHEREAS, on March 11 2020, the Governor of the State of Arizona issued a Declaration of Emergency due to the outbreak of COVID 19, and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the President of the United States of American issued a Declaration of National Emergency, and

WHEREAS, guidance issued to institutions of higher education in the United States considers that a temporary transition to online instruction and increased availability of telecommuting may be effective in decreasing the risk of transmission of COVID 19, and in accordance with such guidance, many institutions of higher education are taking such actions, and

WHEREAS, strict compliance with some policies and procedures may hamper efforts by the Pima County Community College District (District) to take appropriate action to mitigate the effects of COVID 19 and protect its students and employees, and

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the District to prepare for and implement measures to respond to the threat and potential spread of COVID-19, and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the Chancellor have the tools necessary to ensure the health and safety of students and employees and to ensure that student learning continues to the greatest extent practicable, including by remote and virtual means, and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that District personnel policies and benefit plans be sufficiently flexible to address employee circumstances caused by illness or quarantine related to COVID-19 or caring for family members or other dependents due to COVID-19, and

WHEREAS, it may be necessary to procure goods and services and enter into contracts to protect District students and employees or to assure the continued safe operation of the District, without following the District Purchasing Manual with respect to advertising for and gathering bids,

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that, consistent with A.R.S. §§ 26-301 et seq., and in accordance with Board Policy 8.05, "Institutional Safety and Security," the Pima County Community College District Governing Board hereby expresses its goal and explicit directive that Chancellor Lee Lambert, pursuant to the authority delegated to the Chancellor by the Board, shall take all necessary and prudent action to protect the District's students, employees, property, and assets, as well as its academic and fiscal integrity, during the Arizona and national states of emergency presented by the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated public-health and financial risks, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board expresses its approval of all actions taken by Chancellor Lee Lambert up to the date of this Resolution that were made in furtherance of the purposes specified in this Resolution.