

STUDENT UPDATE FROM THE PRESIDENT, PAUL CARLSEN – April 13, 2020

LTC Students,

We are now in the third full week under the Governor's Safer at Home order. While many of you and our faculty have adapted to online learning, others have been in limbo, waiting for an all-clear signal to resume their labs and hands-on training.

Unfortunately, we do not have a clear picture of what our new normal will look like when the Safer at Home order is lifted or the pandemic ends. But, we do know two things are likely. First, things will not go back to the way they were. Much like how the Great Depression, Pearl Harbor, and 9/11 changed the world and our community, the same will likely happen with this pandemic. Second, all of us will go through a significant time of transition until we begin to feel comfortable and safe around others and large groups.

Faced with this reality, we have determined the following:

- We are continuing to pause all lab-based courses this spring semester and are offering two options to students. Option 1: students can withdraw and receive a 100% refund. Option 2: students can return to campus the month of July, under strict social distancing rules, to receive credit for the skills they can successfully demonstrate. More information will be forthcoming.
- Essential public safety academies, exempt from the Safer at Home order, will be conducted as planned for those students ready to quickly graduate and enter the workforce. Students in this situation have already been contacted by their instructors.
- For the summer term, all courses that can be offered online will be offered online. A decision on lab-based courses for the summer term will be made at a later date.

I know this is not ideal, but please know we are making decisions with the best interests of you, our faculty and staff, and our community in mind.

Thank you for your continued flexibility and support as we navigate this challenging time together.

Thanks, Paul