



11/15/2025

# CAMPUS UPDATES

## IVC Superintendent/President

### Dr. Lennor Johnson



Greetings Campus Community:

I hope this message finds you well and in great spirits as we move toward the end of the semester and step into the holiday season. What better way to kick things off than with our annual Student Thanksgiving Luncheon held on Wednesday, 11/12. It was an incredible event, one that truly gets better every year. Photos from this memorable celebration can be found [here](#).

I want to extend heartfelt appreciation to all the remarkable individuals who planned, supported, and contributed their time, resources, and donations. The event was warm, well organized, and genuinely inviting, a clear reflection of how deeply we care for our students. Many were grateful, but one student in particular stopped me to share that this was her first Thanksgiving celebration in more than ten years due to her family's circumstances. It meant so much to her, and it meant the world to me to see our college serve as a place where community, compassion, and connection come together. This is the very definition of our Culture of Care. Thank you to all, especially those who worked so hard to put this event together. (I would list everyone, but there are too many to list, and I would hate to accidentally exclude someone.)

**Federal Update – Government Reopens After Record Shutdown:** After 42 days, the longest federal shutdown in U.S. history has officially ended. On Wednesday, the House approved the Senate's Continuing Resolution (CR), restoring federal operations and maintaining FY 2025 funding levels through January 30, 2026. The CR also fully funds SNAP through September 2026, preventing disruptions to food assistance programs that many IVC students and families depend on, and pauses federal workforce reductions until early 2026. During the shutdown, limited federal staffing caused delays in grant support, technical assistance, and accreditation-related reviews through NACIQI. As agencies resume normal operations, IVC will continue monitoring any impacts on student support programs, financial aid processes, and accreditation timelines.

**Your Guide to IVC's New Course Schedule Platform:** Following our last announcement of IVC's upgraded course schedule platform, a new step-by-step [Course Search Guide](#) is now available to help students, faculty, and staff navigate the enhanced system. The guide walks users through key features, including modality filters, 8-week course sorting, and improved search tools, which is posted on the IVC homepage under [Learn How to Search for Classes](#). The guide has also been shared regularly with students as winter and spring registration continues. We encourage everyone to explore the platform and use the guide to support students in building their upcoming schedules. Access the guide and the new schedule by clicking [here](#).

**Navigating 8-Week Courses:** Building on recent updates to the new course schedule platform, IVC has launched a dedicated landing page to help students better understand 8-week courses and the benefits of this accelerated format. The page highlights key differences between 8-week and full-term classes, offers guidance on how to plan a balanced schedule, and supports students considering this flexible option this upcoming spring session. The 8-week course information page can be accessed from the IVC homepage or by using our website's search bar, and it has been shared with both current and previously enrolled students. Additional promotional materials and video explanations are also in development. To explore the new 8-week course information page, [click here](#).

**Campus Safety:** Thank you to our Campus Safety Office for hosting the Active Assailant Training on 11/13. These efforts are part of our ongoing strategy to keep our campus safe. In addition, we are reviewing lessons learned from the Great ShakeOut and will be making further enhancements to our safety procedures.



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**VP of Academic Services Forum and Onboarding:** Next week, I hope you will join us, or take time to view the recording, as we meet four promising finalists for Vice President of Academic Services. The open forums will be held in person in the College Center and streamed live via Zoom so the entire campus community can participate remotely. Information on the Zoom link and forum details can be found [here](#). I could not be more excited. Immediately following the forums, each finalist will participate in extended interviews with the President's Cabinet. After board approval, the selected candidate will begin a one to two-week onboarding period to deepen their understanding of IVC, our culture, policies, procedures, and contracts. During that time, VP Alexis will continue overseeing most day-to-day operations in consultation with the VP of Academic Services. Please note that the new VP of Academic Services will not be fully accessible during this orientation period, although meet-and-greet opportunities will be scheduled.

**Bookstore Transition:** As previously shared, the IVC Bookstore is preparing to transition to a fully virtual model in January 2026. The Instruction Office, deans, and faculty continue to meet bi-weekly with Follett to ensure a smooth shift and timely availability of course materials for students. To support this effort, a Bookstore Transition Taskforce has been established to guide campus communication, address student needs, and explore options for a smaller in-person spirit store, potentially located within the library, to provide students access to essential items. Additional details will be shared as plans are finalized.

**Final Thoughts:** As we approach the Thanksgiving break and the holiday season, I want to express how grateful I am for each of you. The work you do changes lives, supports families, and strengthens our community.

Warm regards,  
Lennor M. Johnson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent/President