FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NOVEMBER 6, 2020 CONTACT: KAY C. HENDRICKS COORDINATOR OF COMMUNICATION (210) 707-6789

ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT RELEASES SPRING 2021 RETURN TO LEARNING GUIDE FOR STUDENTS

The Alamo Colleges District has released its Return to Learning Student and Family Guide for Spring 2021 to provide students with all the information they need to prepare for the Spring semester, whether they will be learning remotely or in face-to-face classes. For Spring 2021, most classes will still take place remotely, but the district's goal is to move from the 10% of student and faculty on campus this fall to 25% this spring. This will be done with student safety and success as the priority.

The comprehensive guide is part of the support the college faculty and staff, Board of Trustees and all of the Alamo Colleges Family are working to provide to help students succeed this spring. The guide covers all the preparations, programs and support that have been put in place to help students as they courageously return to the spring semester, continuing on their path to the social and economic mobility that will empower them to better their lives and those of their families.

"Empowering our students to succeed by providing safe learning environments and access to services is our priority as our community continues to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic," said Alamo Colleges District Chancellor Dr. Mike Flores. "Our faculty, staff and leadership, under the direction of our Board of Trustees, has worked very hard to put plans in place to overcome every barrier to education that COVID-19 has created. We are proud of the resilience our students have shown in staying in college from this past spring to the more than halfway point this fall. They, and all of us, will prevail together," he added.

"The Board of Trustees and every member of the Alamo Colleges District family has rallied around students to provide us every tool needed to succeed," said Darius Martin, Alamo Colleges District Student Trustee. "as a student of the Alamo Colleges District, I know that we have proven that we can meet the challenges this spring just as we have since last spring. I am so proud of all my fellow students have accomplished," he added.

Key points of the plan include:

• All Spring 2021 classes will be delivered remotely with exceptions for career and technical courses and some arts and sciences courses that require face-to-face learning. Starting January 19, the Alamo Colleges will deliver a minimal number of face-to-face courses on campus. More information on this is available in the Return to Learning Guide link below.

• Temperature checks will be required for all students, faculty, and staff on campus for Spring 2021.

• Students, employees and visitors are required to wear masks or face coverings on campus and upon entry to any campus building, and as required or encouraged in public settings.

• For Spring 2021, the Alamo Colleges will be operating at Level III. An <u>explanation of levels</u> has been posted to the district's website.

• Each one of the Alamo College will operate student support services (by appointment only) as early as January 6, on Mondays through Thursdays, from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., for essential on-site student support. For more information on services to be provided, go to the Return to Learning Guide link below.

• Students support for food, housing, counseling, technology needs and emergency aid will continue to be available throughout the Spring semester through the Student Advocacy Centers.

•. The Student Impact Fund will continue to provide emergency resources for students who need temporary assistance with rent, utility bills, groceries, healthcare and lost wages.

• Through a partnership with UT Health San Antonio Wellness 360, healthcare services are available virtually for Alamo Colleges students.

The <u>Return to Learning Student and Family Guide</u> is available on the district website along with a <u>student resource page</u>.

At the <u>Alamo Colleges District</u>, high quality education and affordable costs provide exceptional value to students and alumni who are major contributors to the economy and culture of the community.