

UT CPPS COVID Experiential Student Guidelines

For ALL students, Regardless of Immunization Status

1. If you are feeling ill or experiencing any COVID-like symptoms, do not report to your IPPE or APPE experience. Symptoms may include fever (>100.4 F), cough, respiratory symptoms, gastrointestinal symptoms, change in sense of smell or taste, or rash. Contact your PCP for care. A COVID test may be required. Contact your preceptor immediately via email and phone to make them aware of the anticipated absence. You should also inform Dr. Seegert (for IPPE) or Dr. Kaun (for APPE) of your absence via email within 24 hours of your missed day.
2. For all students, regardless of immunization status, who have a confirmed case of COVID-19, students must be a minimum of 10 days from the onset of symptoms and also remain afebrile (temp <100.4) for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing agents before they may return to their site. Students must receive written authorization (via email) to return to their site from Dr. Seegert, Dr. Kaun or their designees, Kristin Kamcza or Sherlette Hobbs.
3. If you are excused from the in-person clinical component of the rotation due to illness or quarantine, the UT CPPS and your site may explore alternative virtual activities. Illness will not adversely impact your grade. The missed time or work may need to be made up at a later date or in an alternative format and/or site.
4. All students should practice good hygiene as well as handwashing principles including washing hands with antibacterial soap before and after any direct encounter with a patient and at least once every 2 hours. Hand washing should be thorough and follow CDC recommendations including at least 20 seconds of scrubbing.
5. Each experiential site will have its own unique rules and requirements related to COVID. It is the responsibility of the student to understand and adhere to these rules at all times. This includes proper use and wear of site-required PPE. Sites may ask a student to leave the site for failure to adhere to PPE, social distancing or other COVID related rules. Blatant disregard for, or negligence of, such rules may result in disciplinary action up to and including removal from the site and negative impacts on the associated experiential course grade up to and including a grade of U or F as appropriate for the course.
6. If students have direct contact with patients suspected of or known to be COVID-19 positive, students are required to have proper supervision by faculty or preceptors and must also wear proper PPE including a fit tested N-95 mask.
7. Students must understand that while attempts will be made to limit exposure to COVID-19, infection related to exposure on IPPE and APPE is possible. COVID-19 is a serious illness which can result in long term disability or death. Any student who is uncomfortable with the personal risks may choose to not participate in experiential education. Progress toward degree completion will cease until experiential learning resumes. If a student has concerns, please contact Dr. Seegert or Dr. Kaun to discuss options.

For Students Fully Immunized against COVID-19*

*fully immunized is defined as 14 days after the final dose in the vaccination series (1 dose series or 2 dose series)

1. For individuals who are fully immunized against COVID-19, the following guidelines should be followed:
 - a. Students are **not** required to wear COVID specific PPE including masks, face shields or eye protection unless required by the site
 - b. Physical distancing is not required unless required by the site
 - c. Students are not required to quarantine in the event of a positive exposure unless the student is experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID 19.

For Students NOT Fully Immunized Against COVID-19

1. Regarding positive exposure for students who are not fully immunized: Positive exposure is defined as having unmasked, close (<6 feet) contact with a person who has tested positive or is symptomatic with a suspected case for >10 minutes.
 - a. For students with a positive exposure who are *asymptomatic*, students must obtain a COVID test before returning to experiential site. If the test is negative, the student will be permitted to return. Keep in mind that a positive test/symptoms may develop up to 14 days after exposure. Even with a negative test, students should remain extra vigilant with self-monitoring of symptoms, masking and social distancing during that timeframe.
 - b. For students with a positive exposure who are symptomatic, students are considered to have a highly suspected case. Students must receive a COVID-19 test and refer to #2 above for instructions.
 - c. Having contact with an individual who has experienced a positive exposure (i.e. a contact of a contact) does not require the student to get tested unless the student is symptomatic or the individual who was in direct contact with the student develops symptoms or has a positive test.

2. All students who are not fully immunized against COVID-19 are required to wear a mask at all times while on IPPE or APPE experiences. Students must provide their own clean, cloth mask for use on rotation. Masks must be worn properly at all times and must cover the nose, mouth, and chin. Masks may be removed while eating, but rules for social distancing apply. Social Distancing is defined by the CDC as the following: Stay at least 6 feet apart from other people, do not gather in groups and stay out of crowded places.