Monitoring Nursing Students During COVID-19 Pandemic

The University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON), in consultation with the University of Maryland, Baltimore’s (UMB) occupational health physician and contact tracers, will adhere to the CDC and UMB guidelines for exposure risk and contact tracing.

**Student Responsibilities**

1) Nursing students who are symptomatic of COVID-19, have a COVID-19+ test, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 are expected to complete the [COVID-19 Report Form](https://safe.umaryland.edu/surveys/?s=TEPTH3PTX4) immediately. They also need to reach out to: a) UMSON’s health officer if they are participating in face-to-face learning activities and b) if applicable, the UMB contact person posted in campus housing to be placed in an alternative housing arrangement. Students are expected to follow instructions for quarantine, testing, and return to face-to-face activities as prescribed by the UMSON health officer.

2) Nursing students who are unvaccinated and are required by clinical sites to be tested for COVID-19 on a weekly basis must comply with UMSON’s instructions to obtain and submit results for weekly tests for COVID-19.

**School Health Officer Responsibilities**

1) The School’s health officer will monitor for COVID-19 weekly testing compliance for unvaccinated students, as required. If a student is not compliant, the health officer will notify the program director/specialty director/associate dean for the PhD program (AD PhD) to ask that they work with the student to become compliant immediately.

2) Once notified by the hotline that a student has filed a report, the health officer will maintain contact with the student to determine their COVID-19 status and quarantine/isolation/testing requirements.

3) Students who undergo testing to be cleared for return from quarantine or isolation will share their test result(s) with the health officer. The health officer will offer guidance based on the test result(s) and report result(s) to hotline when necessary.

4) The health officer will notify other nursing students in the learning activity if UMB contact tracers will be contacting them and will ask them to respond immediately to the request. In the case that the circumstances do not warrant contact tracing, the health officer will send an email that outlines the potential exposure and advises the students of their options for follow-up, including testing, and indicates the School will support them if they elect to quarantine.

5) The health officer will notify the appropriate program director/specialty director/AD PhD that a student is quarantining or in isolation.

6) The health officer will notify the director, Office of the Registrar and Students Placements; the program director/specialty director/AD PhD; and instructors when a student is cleared to return to face-to-face learning activities.

**Program Director/Specialty Director/Associate Dean for the PhD Program Responsibilities**

1) If notified by an instructor that a student has been exposed to a COVID-19+ person or that a student has COVID-19-like symptoms or tests COVID-19+ and it is unclear whether the student has filed a COVID-19 Report Form and been

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1 [https://safe.umaryland.edu/surveys/?s=TEPTH3PTX4](https://safe.umaryland.edu/surveys/?s=TEPTH3PTX4)
2 UMSON Health Officer – Kelsey Comeaux Bradford, MD, MPH, kbradford@umaryland.edu
in contact with the UMSON health officer or hotline, the program director/specialty director/AD PhD will contact the health officer.

**Faculty/Staff Member Responsibilities**

1) If a faculty member (including clinical instructors) is aware of student exposure to a COVID-19+ person or that a student has COVID-19-like symptoms or tests COVID-19+, they will contact the health officer and provide the following information, as available:
   a. Date of exposure to COVID-19+ person
   b. Date student became symptomatic and/or date of COVID-19+ test, if applicable
   c. Where the last face-to-face learning activities took place in the previous two days
   d. Whether the student has completed UMB’s COVID-19 Report Form and whether instructions from the hotline are available (e.g., quarantine, get tested)

2) The health officer will send the following communication to the student: “It is my understanding that you are either symptomatic for COVID-19, have been exposed to COVID-19, or have a recent positive test for COVID-19. If you haven’t done so already, you are required to complete UMB’s COVID-19 Report Form immediately to receive proper recommendations and clearance to return to learning activities through email communication from me, the UMSON health officer. I will be in contact with your program director so that the School can work with you to support your continued progression in the program while you follow my advice, if applicable.”

3) The faculty or staff member must notify the appropriate program director/specialty director/AD PhD to ensure necessary follow-up to support the student’s continued progression. The program director/specialty director/AD PhD will then notify the appropriate academic dean to develop a plan to continue monitoring the student’s COVID-19 status and plan for supporting the student’s continued progression. The academic dean will notify the health officer for purposes of ongoing follow-up.

**Director, Office of the Registrar and Student Placements Responsibility**

The director, Office of the Registrar and Student Placements notifies the clinical site coordinator when UMSON is notified that a student is symptomatic and/or COVID-19+ unless another UMSON employee has a close working relationship with the site. In that case, the designated UMSON employee will notify the site.

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For suggested changes to this document, please contact Jane Kirschling (kirschling@umaryland.edu), the Bill and Joanne Conway Dean, or Ann Mech, director of legal affairs (amech@umaryland.edu).

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