

University of Maryland School of Nursing

**Monitoring Nursing Students During COVID-19 Pandemic**

UMSON, in consultation with UMB's occupational health physician and contact tracers, will adhere to the CDC 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 call the UMB Hotline (**800-701-9863**) immediately. They also need to reach out to: a) the University of Maryland School of Nursing COVID-19 Tracking Infection Control Specialist<sup>1</sup> (CTICS) 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 quarantine until cleared by the UMB contact tracer, UMB Student Health, or the student's health care provider prior to returning to face-to-face learning.
- 2) All nursing students are expected to complete SAFE on Campus symptom screening daily, even if not physically accessing the UMB or USG locations or engaged in face-to-face clinical experiences.
- 3) Students in practicum are expected to have a cleared SAFE on Campus screening for the days they are scheduled to be in practicum. Students are expected to submit their schedule to the course coordinator.

**Infection Control Specialist Responsibilities**

- 1) Twice a week, the School's CTICS will monitor for SAFE on Campus daily compliance and COVID-19 test/clearance on file in Castle Branch. If a student is not compliant, the CTICS will notify the program director/specialty director/AD PhD to ask that they work with the student to become compliant immediately.
- 2) Once notified by the hotline/contact tracers that a student has called, the CTICS will maintain contact with the student to determine their COVID-19 status as advised by either the contact tracers or Student Health.
- 3) The CTICS will notify other nursing students in the learning activity if UMB contact tracers will be reaching out to them and will ask them to respond immediately to the request. In the case that the circumstances do not warrant contact tracing, CTICS 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.
- 4) The CTICS will notify the appropriate program director/specialty director/AD PhD that a student is quarantining.
- 5) The CTICS will notify the director, Registrar and Students Placements; the program director/specialty director/associate dean; and instructors when a student is cleared by contact tracer, UMB Student Health, or the student's health care provider to return to face-to-face learning activities.

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

- 1) The program director/specialty director/AD PhD reviews daily SAFE screens that indicate that a student has symptoms of COVID-19 or has a COVID-19+ test and they confirm the student has called the hotline and also notify impacted instructor(s). The program director/specialty director/AD PhD also contacts the CTICS to alert them that the student has had a positive SAFE screen.

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<sup>1</sup> UMSON CTICS – Dr. Kelsey Comeaux, [kcomeaux@umaryland.edu](mailto:kcomeaux@umaryland.edu)

- 2) 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 contacted the hotline, the program director/specialty director/AD PhD will contact the CTICS.

### **Faculty/Staff Member Responsibilities**

- 1) Faculty members in face-to-face activities are required to check for daily SAFE on Campus screen clearance for each student. If not available, the student has to complete SAFE on Campus screening immediately and be cleared or the student must leave the building/clinical site. In this situation, students may use the [Episodic Self-Monitoring Symptom Report form](#) as needed.
- 2) 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 contact the CTICS 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 three days**
  - d. Whether the student has called the hotline and whether instructions from the hotline are available (e.g., quarantine, get tested)
- 3) When a faculty or staff member becomes aware of a student with symptoms, exposure, or a positive test, they should notify the CTICS. The CTICS 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 notify UMB’s COVID-19 Hotline (800-701-9863) immediately and UMB Student Health (667-214-1899) to receive a clearance to return to learning activities, which you then must upload into Castle Branch. 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 the advice of UMB’s contact tracers and UMB Student Health, if applicable.”
- 4) 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 CTICS for purposes of ongoing follow-up.

### **Director, Registrar and Student Placements Responsibility**

The director, 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 Dean Jane Kirschling ([kirschling@umaryland.edu](mailto:kirschling@umaryland.edu)) or Ann Mech, director of legal affairs ([amech@umaryland.edu](mailto:amech@umaryland.edu))

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