

Academic Affairs: Returning Students to Hartford HealthCare (HHC) May 28, 2020

Our educational teams have been discussing the return of students to our facilities. Our objective is to return to one of our core missions with our many academic partners. The summary plan described below will allow safe re-entry for students and HHC staff alike and is crafted with an acute awareness of several principles:

- Limit exposure of students to high-risk areas (e.g., ICUs and EDs)
- The number of students that can be accepted for a rotation will be determined locally by the educational leaders
- Students will be tested (molecular testing- PCR) prior to re-entry. Testing to occur no more than five days before the start of a rotation (similar to our preoperative testing guidelines). HHC expects the schools to order tests and receive results – students who **test positive should not report for their rotation**. Students testing positive will be allowed to re-enter per the HHC policy for COVID-19 positive employees. HHC testing facilities may be used by the academic partners. Conserve personal protective equipment (PPE) particularly N-95 masks
- Ask academic partners to provide N-95 masks for clinical rotations where these are required (e.g., Operating Rooms, Ambulatory surgery facilities, Labor and Delivery units, etc.)
- Develop a phased approach to re-entry with delegation to the regions to determine the precise timing of re-entry. The regional plans will vary depending on facility constraints, COVID-19 volumes and PPE supplies.
- Students experiencing the onset of symptoms (fever, respiratory symptoms, etc.) during the clinical day are sent home immediately
- Legal recommendations: We will not require amendments to our existing affiliation agreements as a result of COVID-19 with the exception of Nursing Schools (see Nursing Education Section). We will inform students (& schools) of the risk of contracting COVID-19 when they re-enter a clinical environment. They will acknowledge that they have received this information (we will not ask for a specific waiver of liability). This should be communicated to our academic partners.

Program	Start date(s)	School responsibilities	Hartford HealthCare responsibilities
Medical students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UConn School of medicine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ June 15, 2020 – 4th year students ○ July 6, 2020 – 3rd year students • Quinnipiac <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Late June-early July • ED and ICU rotations will resume for 4th year medical students in July 2020 (only to ICUs without diagnosed COVID-19) 	<p>Antigen testing mandatory through their respective medical schools – HHC able to assist with testing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will <i>not</i> care for known COVID-19 patients per AAMC guidelines • Only face mask needed since limited or no COVID-19 contact with exception of peri-op, ICU, ED and L&D where N-95 required
Nursing students	<p>July 2020 – September 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise Goodwin that start date in May not be possible – coordinate with regions for a July-September start 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antigen testing mandatory through their respective nursing schools – HHC able to assist with testing • Instructors required to verify student and instructor health prior to each clinical day – afebrile with no respiratory symptoms • Requires amendments to HHC agreements with the nursing schools based upon recent DPH directive. The process to assign a single HHC liaison for each nursing school is being developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address concerns about limited non-COVID-19 volume impacting experience. • Schools to work with regional leads and develop specific re-entry plans for nursing students consistent with the July-September timeline • Comply with and document DPH requirements for nursing education: PPE and IP training • High-risk rotations suspended for now: ICU, ED, OR, Endoscopy • HHC infection prevention (IP) will provide DPH mandated education – to be coordinated by regional IP lead. IP developing standard curriculum • Only face mask needed since limited or no COVID-19 contact. • Provide all PPE except N-95 masks for rotations where required: OR, Labor and Delivery • Students will <i>not</i> care for known COVID-19 patients - to preserve PPE
Advanced Practice Providers (APP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Registered Nurse Anesthetist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ End of May 2020 • APPs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Late June 2020 – September 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antigen testing mandatory through their respective schools • Schools to provide N-95 masks where clinically indicated (not including SRNAs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rotations in high-risk areas to be considered on a case-by-case basis • APP re-entry to be coordinated by the Office of Advanced Practice

Allied Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radiology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Late summer 2020 – fall 2020 • Nutrition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fall 2020 • Laboratory sciences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seniors to graduate 2020 ○ Next class 2021 • Respiratory therapy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ongoing discussion to assess risk and PPE • Genetic counseling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Telemedicine encounters late May 2020 – early June 2020 	Antigen testing mandatory through their respective schools	Students will <i>not</i> care for known COVID-19 patients - to preserve PPE
Community Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical therapy (PT), Occupational therapy (OT) and Speech and Language Pathology students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Late summer 2020 – fall 2020 • CAN and nursing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Phased re-entry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antigen testing mandatory through their respective schools • PT, OT and Speech therapy seniors to re-enter to complete clinical experiences to graduate this year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehab leadership to facilitate re-entry for PT, OT and speech therapy students • Assess COVID risks for SLP students • Refer to detailed community network re-entry plan
Behavioral Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telemedicine encounters in late April 2020 • Psychology practicum students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Late May 2020 – Early June 2020 		
Pharmacy - Low risk since a very limited face-to-face patient encounter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-patient facing rotations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ May 2020 – June 2020 • Direct patient-facing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fall 2020 		

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