CP015 COVID-19: Return to Campus

Policy Type: Academics and Administrative/Operations
Responsible Administrator: Peter Navarro, Chief Compliance Officer
Responsible Office: Office of Compliance

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Training Required: Yes
LCME Required: No

Approved by:

Marc J Kahn, MD, Dean
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Definitions

Coronavirus (COVID-19): This 2019 Novel Coronavirus is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. If contracted, the disease can cause grave consequences. According to the CDC, symptoms of the virus include fevers, coughs, shortness of breath, aches, sore throat, and vomiting. A respiratory illness, the severity for patients has ranged from a mild cold to very severe symptoms that can lead to death. These symptoms can occur between 2 to 14 days after exposure to someone infected with the coronavirus.

Statement of Purpose

To protect the health and safety of our staff, faculty, students and community.

Entities Affected By This Policy

This policy applies to all Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV (KSOM) departments, employees and students.

Required Acknowledgement

All KSOM personnel and students must read and follow the required policy and procedure.

Policy

KSOM protocol is based on the best available scientific evidence. Our plan to resume on-campus operations is comprised of a coordinated and multi-faceted approach that seeks to make use of the best information available.
Sources include: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), federal and state governments, the Nevada System of Higher Education, and experts at UNLV.

**UNLV Phase Two (Effective July 13, 2020*)
*Dates are tentative and subject to change**

The University approved several of the academic schools within the division of health sciences to resume some onsite activities and has also developed separate plans and operating procedures to accommodate their unique requirements. Clinical activities form a significant part of the work of these units, for both student instruction and professional clinical practice. School administrators and faculty members, as health professionals, have carefully evaluated the risk of various activities necessary for their operations and implemented procedures designed to mitigate risk and preserve the health and safety of students, patients, faculty, and other employees.

A. **Return to Work** - KSOM began the transition back to in-person instruction and resume certain campus walk-in services. In July 2020, orientation and small group sessions will begin in-person instruction with appropriate levels of social distancing. During the fall 2020 semester, in-person instruction is expected to expand further.

B. **Social Distancing Guidelines** - Students, faculty, and staff on campus are expected to maintain a distance of approximately 6 feet (or 2 meters) from others whenever possible. Individuals are also directed to avoid large gatherings (as defined by state and local health authorities), avoid crowded spaces and queues, reduce the number of people in restrooms and elevators, hold meetings virtually (where social distancing is not possible), use appointments to minimize the number of visitors in an office at any given time, and employ a variety of other practices to maintain social distancing.

C. **Public Gathering Guidelines** - Limit public and private gatherings to 50 or fewer people.

D. **Face Covering** - KSOM will require the use of face coverings as directed by UNLV and the Governor’s June 24, 2020 directive, which states that face coverings should be worn at all times in the following circumstances:

   Public spaces: (1) inside of, or standing in line waiting to enter, any indoor public space; and (2) while outside in a public space when 6 feet of social distancing from those not in your same household isn’t possible.

   While at work: (1) when interacting in-person with members of the public; (2) when in any space visited by the general public, even if no one else is present; (3) when in any space where food is prepared or packaged, for sale, or generally distributed to others; (4) when walking through common areas, such as hallways, stairways, elevators, and parking facilities; and (5) in any room or enclosed area where other people (except for members of the person’s own household or residence) are present when unable to physically distance.

E. **Face Covering Exemptions** - Exemptions include persons: (1) who have a medical condition, whether it be mental health, disability, or other health reason that prevents them from wearing a face covering. This includes people with any medical condition for whom wearing a face covering can obstruct their breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance; (2) who are hearing impaired, or when in communication with an individual who is hearing impaired where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication; and (3) for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to the person as related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines. Individuals exempted under these provisions should wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield, if possible.

Where persons are uncertain whether a particular exemption applies, they should contact the KSOM Office of Compliance.
F. Guidelines for Office Areas - In the case where faculty/staff share office/work space and cannot maintain a 6-foot distance between persons, face masks must be worn at all times while in the work area.

G. Illness/COVID-19 Symptom Guidelines - All faculty, staff, students, residents and/or fellows who experience symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home and self-isolate for 14 days. They should contact their physician immediately to schedule testing and must receive clearance from their physician prior to returning to work/school. If the test results are negative, the person should report them to his/her supervisor and will be able to return back to campus immediately.

H. COVID-19 Community Related Exposure for Non-Healthcare Personnel - All faculty, staff, students, residents and/or fellows who have had close contact (less than 6 feet for greater than 15 minutes) with an individual testing positive for COVID-19 should self-isolate until 14 days after last exposure and maintain social distancing from others at all times. They should also self-monitor for symptoms and check temperature twice a day. If symptoms develop, they should contact their physician immediately to schedule testing and must receive clearance from their physician prior to returning to work/school. If the test results are negative, the person can report them to his/her supervisor and will be able to return back to campus immediately.

I. COVID-19 Community Related Exposure for Healthcare Personnel (HCP) - HCP should consult with their supervisors regarding current CDC guidance for risk assessment and work restrictions for HCP with potential exposure to COVID-19.

J. Guidelines for Staff - As necessary, faculty, staff, and other employees will be required to complete COVID-19 related training. Depending on the nature of their position, certain employees may be required to undergo a more extensive training regimen. As training becomes available, it will be assigned to employees and may require employees to certify that they have completed it in a timely manner.

K. Guidelines for Students - Students are allowed on campus only for preassigned activities and during downtime between clinic rotations. Once the activity is completed, students are required to leave campus. Until further notice, students will schedule virtual meetings with faculty and staff with the exception of activities that require in-person meetings. During these face-to-face encounters, students and faculty/staff will wear face coverings. As necessary, students may also be required to complete COVID-19 related training.

L. Travel Restrictions (Domestic Travel) - As travel increases your chances of getting and spreading COVID-19, KSOM travelers are expected to self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 upon return. As there is currently no CDC recommendation to self-quarantine after returning from domestic travel; KSOM is not placing a school wide restriction on KSOM employees or students returning from personal travel for quarantine. However, individual KSOM departments may choose to adopt their own more restrictive travel policies. Employees should check with their supervisors to confirm whether their departments have adopted additional travel policies.

M. Travel Restrictions (International Travel) - For those who travel internationally for personal reasons, KSOM students and employees must follow CDC recommendations. The CDC advises all international travelers to self-quarantine for 14 days after their arrival into the U.S. At home, individuals are expected to take their temperature twice daily, monitor their health for any symptoms of COVID-19, and practice social distancing. Employees who elect to travel internationally should ensure that they have sufficient annual leave days to use for their self-quarantine. Students should determine the potential impact a self-quarantine may have on their study/clinical activities as rescheduling of activities may not be reasonably possible. Anyone determined to have provided false information regarding out-of-state travel may be subject to disciplinary action. Individuals testing negative for COVID-19, after returning from international travel, may return to campus after presenting evidence of a negative test result. However, these individuals must remain self-quarantined until their negative tests results have been reported.
N. **Exception** - The self-isolation requirement does not apply to licensed providers and administrative staff designated as essential employees. However, those individuals are required to pre-report their travel plans to confirm the applicability of the exception and to determine the need for any additional safety measures upon their return to work.

O. **Cleaning and Disinfecting** - KSOM will assign someone to ensure classroom work stations and A/V equipment is disinfected before and after each use. The contracted custodial team will check and clean all areas and disinfect all touch points in those areas including all entrance doors, restrooms, break rooms, stairways, desks/tabletops, phones, elevators, etc. When disinfecting these touch points, they will follow a job card. As they finish their nightly duties, the team will go room by room in all buildings, clean everything from top to bottom, and spray disinfectant with an electrostatic machine. This method is extremely effective, especially in classrooms on the chairs and tabletops. As they go into each room they will also clean bottoms of chairs and walls.

P. **Health Screening** - The RebelSAFE smartphone app contains a COVID-19 screening tool that utilizes guidance from the CDC and other public health agencies. Employees and students will be required to complete the assessment via the RebelSAFE app or through the CDC Self-Checker ([https://www.unlv.edu/police/rebelsafe](https://www.unlv.edu/police/rebelsafe) or [https://covid19healthbot.cdc.gov/](https://covid19healthbot.cdc.gov/)), daily before coming to campus.

Q. **Positive Test Results** - The mandatory training for all faculty and staff is expected to strongly encourage individuals who test positive for COVID-19 to voluntarily notify the University through an intake form. The University will handle all communication of positive test results as required under the Clery Act and take appropriate actions to prevent the spread of illness as directed by the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD). KSOM will follow protocols established by the SNHD once an employee self-identifies as having a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis, including assisting health district officials with contact tracing and notification of others who have been in close proximity with the person who tested positive.

Anyone with a positive test result will be advised to self-isolate and avoid coming to campus.

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**Related Documents**

Pursuant to CP001 (Policy and Procedure Policy), additional procedures will be added to this policy as they become necessary for its enforcement and/or implementation.

See also: [https://www.unlv.edu/coronavirus](https://www.unlv.edu/coronavirus)

Additionally, because this policy is meant to augment COVID-19 related guidance issued by UNLV, it may be amended to reflect such guidance as it is disseminated and/or updated by UNLV. So long as these amendments accurately reflect guidance issued by UNLV, they will not require additional review by the policy review committees and may be made directly to this policy by the KSOM’s Chief Compliance Officer.

**Contacts**

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