

COVID-19 Safety Plan and Assumption of Risk for Experiential Learning Activities

Student Name _____

Date _____

Program _____

Preamble:

Students in Regis University's Rueckert-Hartman College for Health Professions ("RHCHP") are enrolled in courses necessary for graduation, licensure, certification and/or accreditation that require participation in **experiential learning**. These may include, but not limited to: clinical placements, internships, practica, service learning, community based research, consultancy, direct service, advocacy, personal interviews, volunteerism, and/or field trips that give them the opportunity to apply what they have learned to real community situations to further develop their knowledge and skills; and for practical application of classroom instruction in a clinical and community environment.

Participation in experiential learning activities involves inherent hazards and risks. Inherent risk means a danger, hazard, or condition which is an integral part of an activity that cannot be eliminated by the exercise of reasonable care. There are inherent, potential health risks associated with educational experience in the community environment; these risks remain and/or may be increased as they relate specifically to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This document outlines information, guidelines, and protocols for experiential learning activities; including risk and protocol related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

RHCHP continues to follow the recommendations of the CDC, and the required experiential learning site policies and guidelines, for the safety of our students and faculty. We are committed to providing our students the best possible experiential learning activities under the current circumstances and have partnered with partner sites to provide the following safety plan.

This safety plan is effective immediately for students re-entering/entering experiential learning activities. Students will be responsible for abiding by the following instructions or their experiential learning placement may be terminated.

As a health care provider, students have an ethical obligation to maintain and provide the highest standards of care and ensure the health and safety of patients, clients, participants, and community members.

Student Responsibilities While in Experiential Learning Activities:

1. Experiential Learning Site Policies and Guidelines

- a) Students must understand the current safety guidelines and expectations of each experiential learning site. Students are required to comply with the guidelines and policies of their site(s) during the duration of the placement(s). Including but not limited to: notification of illness, COVID-19 testing, self-quarantine, and/or isolation policies. Note: Policies and guidelines may change on an ongoing basis. It is incumbent on the student to seek out the information as needed/necessary.
- b) Students must read, understand and follow the current CDC guidelines for keeping themselves safe when working in experiential learning activities.
- c) If a site provides protocols and guidelines for in-person work related to COVID-19 and these differ from the CDC, federal, state, local, and/or Regis guidelines (including but not limited to: social distancing; hand washing; donning, doffing, and reusing PPE; etc.) in such a way that the student feels unsafe and/or the student is experiencing pressure from a site to follow a less rigorous protocol, the student should reach out to the experiential learning point of contact in their school, division, or program by following established procedures for addressing impasses with a site or site supervisor.

2. COVID-19 Symptom Monitoring

- a) While participating in an RHCHP education program that includes experiential learning, RHCHP students must self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms every day by completing the daily questions on CAMPUS CLEAR APP prior to leaving home for the first time in the day, and by monitoring the presence of a fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea, and continually self-monitoring throughout the day for these symptoms. If students are not able to choose not to utilize the CAMPUS CLEAR APP, they must complete a Regis University Wellness form daily and email it to student affairs every morning.

3. Response to Symptoms

- a) If a student experiences an increase of temperature and/or the presence of any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea, the student must immediately:
 - i. Refrain from entering the experiential learning setting for any reason until approved by the site coordinator and Regis Student Affairs.
 - ii. Contact Regis Student Services through CAMPUS CLEAR APP or by completing an incident report through the Office of the Dean of Students at studentaffairs@regis.edu
- b) Based on site policy and RHCHP school, division, and/or program specific policy for reporting illness, student is to notify experiential learning supervisor and faculty coordinator/advisor of missed workdays. Failure of a student to remove themselves from experiential learning activities when having the afore mentioned symptoms could result in dismissal from the program. Students should follow recommended testing

guidelines in the geographic region they are currently residing during the experiential learning activity.

- c) Students will be able to return to the experiential learning setting when they have met the site's and Regis University's return to work policy or guidelines. Students should follow CDC guidelines for self-quarantine and symptom monitoring.
- d) Financial expenses due to illness or need for testing will occur at the student expense and/or using personal health insurance (based on insurance coverage).

4. COVID-19 Exposure Monitoring

- a) Students that are exposed to an individual with COVID-19 must record that exposure in the CAMPUS CLEAR APP and report the exposure to their experiential learning site supervisor and faculty coordinator/advisor. Students can continue to participate in experiential learning by continuing to monitor the presence of any COVID-19 symptoms daily through the CAMPUS CLEAR APP.

5. Request for Modification/Adaptation

- a) Students will not be required to render care for confirmed acute COVID-19 positive patients while in an experiential learning setting as an RHCHP student.
- b) RHCHP recognizes that students may be participating in the care and rehabilitation of patients who are recovering from COVID-19 infection in post-acute settings. Students may care for patients that were positive for COVID-19.
- c) When students are required to quarantine due to a positive COVID-19 test; site policy or guidelines; and/or local, state, or federal laws each program will decide on the best available solution based upon accreditation, licensing, state, and graduation requirements.
- d) Students who self-report that they are immunocompromised, or live with someone who is immunocompromised, should meet with their school, division, or program director/coordinator to find out their options on attending experiential learning activities. It is up to the student to choose if they want to participate in experiential learning activities. Accreditation, licensing, and/or state requirements will guide the options provided to a student on the ability to utilize an alternate experiential learning activity, however, the student will be provided with options and will choose the appropriate option for their specific needs. Note: based upon the student choice, progression in the program may be affected.
- e) Students who travel nationally or internationally related to educational/experiential learning will be required to follow Regis University, state and country restrictions. Travel impacted by COVID-19 related concerns, will be handled by the specific program on a case to case basis.

6. Experiential Learning Cancellations and Incompletes

- a) Experiential learning placements are decided upon by clinical sites, RHCHP staff/faculty, and others; each Regis program will work with sites to find alternative placements, if available, and/or alternative activities if scheduled placements are cancelled. If

alternative activities are not available, each program will decide on the best available solution based upon accreditation, licensing, state, and graduation requirements.

b) Student hours/incompletes

- i. Students are responsible for the hours required to meet the standards and learning of experiential learning.
- ii. If a student is unable to complete the hours due to site changes/modifications, they should contact the school and experiential learning faculty/staff of their program immediately to create the plan for completing hours.
- iii. Failure to notify the school/program about hours incomplete, could result in a failure/incomplete of the course and impact graduation requirements.

Assumption of Risk:

1. I acknowledge that participating in experiential learning activities involves inherent hazards and risks to me and my property and I hereby personally assume all such risks. I also acknowledge that while participating in experiential learning activities, it is my responsibility to take every practical precaution to ensure my personal safety and the protection of my personal property.
2. While involved in experiential learning activities, I will: (a) conduct myself professionally at all times, knowing that people will associate me and my behavior with my program, Regis University, and RHCHP; (b) comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations; (c) comply with the sites policies, regulations, guidelines, and procedures, including, without limitation, those pertaining to COVID-19 pandemic, professionalism, safety, and the confidentiality of the records and information maintained by the site/organization.
3. In consideration of participating in experiential learning activities, on behalf of myself, my family, my heirs, my assigns, I (herein collectively and individually referred to as "Releasers") hereby indemnify, hold harmless, and waive and release from liability, and agree not to sue Regis University, its trustees, officers, employees, agents, contractors, and suppliers (hereinafter collectively and individually referred to as "Releasees") now and forever for any and all claims, causes of action, and damages I may have which arise out of my participation in this activity, whether or not the claims, causes of action or damages are the result of the university's own negligence.
4. In connection with the risks of personal injury I am assuming under this Agreement, I may need to rely on my own personal health insurance policy to cover the costs of medical care and treatment.
5. If I should use my personal vehicle for my transportation or the transportation of others while engaged in the experiential learning activities, I agree to have in effect at that time my own automobile insurance policy with all coverages as required by law, and that such insurance will serve as the primary coverages in the event of any claim.

6. I have read this *COVID-19 Safety Plan and Assumption of Risk for Experiential Learning Activities* in its entirety and understand its contents. I also understand that the terms of this Agreement are contractual and not a mere recital, and that by signing it I am voluntarily surrendering certain legal rights and agreeing to all of its terms and conditions.

Student's Signature: _____

Student's Printed Name: _____

Date: _____