

March 15, 2020

Dear Faculty, Staff and Students,

As we continue to address the concerns of our faculty, staff and students we are once again issuing new guidelines for Midwestern University. In light of the national trend, and the directives from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, we have taken steps to assure the health and wellbeing of our entire community. This is indeed a time not panic but carefully assess what is in the best interest of all of our health care students. Midwestern University's mission will continue uninterrupted, but on a temporary modified format. We are working to ensure that our faculty, staff and students are supported during this transition. Below are detailed steps that are being taken.

Important Notice

We have heard from the Accreditation Agencies who have informed us that they have not yet modified or changed the requirements and experiences needed to fulfill the rigorous standards dictated for completion of our degrees. We are carefully assessing how students in their final year of education can complete on time, and proceed to residencies and careers.

First Priority

Your health is our first priority. If any faculty, staff or student believes that they are a vulnerable category (elderly, immune suppressed, under cancer treatments, etc.) please self-identify to either Ms. Gibson, Director of Human Resources or Dr. Kosinski, Dean of Students. They will keep your personal information confidential but will make special arrangements with your academic department or immediate supervisor to allow for accommodations. Those with vulnerable children and serve as a full-time care givers for a vulnerable individuals, please consider taking personal time or vacation time to care for your loved ones.

Testing Centers

- All large group exams are being moved to large auditoriums where students can be separated by a minimum of three seats apart
- Exams will be paper exams
- The Testing Center will be used by small classes that can be spread out at considerable distance from each other

Academic Laboratory Sessions

- OMM labs will be online only for the next two weeks, on both campuses
- Pharmacy Labs are not scheduled at this time
- Anatomy labs in Downers Grove are being conducted in small groups for the next two weeks until their quarter ends
- Anatomy in Glendale has their final exam and practicum tomorrow. The exam is being moved to the Auditoriums 2 – 5 and students will be placed at least six seats apart. Security personnel will

be available to allow entrance of 12 students at a time to enter the auditorium and the not have students congregate in the lobby before or after the exam

- The Dental Simulation Centers are being divided to smaller groups or postponed, when possible, until April and May
- The Optometry Labs are being delayed for two weeks, except for the Preclinical Efficiency Exam that will be held on March 16, 2020 on the Glendale campus. The testing is in small groups
- Veterinary Medicine will continue to have small group labs on a limited basis
- All other program labs will be conducted in small groups or discontinued for two weeks

Classes and Large Lectures

- At this time, all classes are being offered online or transiting to online during the upcoming week. Many faculty are in the process of recording new lectures and their goal is to make them available in the upcoming week. Please look for specific information from your Academic Dean or Program Director in the upcoming days

Clinic Operations

In light of the state of emergency declared at the federal level and in multiple states as of March 14, 2020, as well as the [US. Surgeon General's warning](#), clinicians should postpone those outpatient visits and procedures that can be safely delayed, particularly in elderly patients and those with comorbidities.

- We are establishing a drive up check in for patients who have exhibited symptoms through scheduled appointment on both campuses
- The Dental Clinics are going to proceed with Emergency Only Services with modifications to finish cases in progress but on a limited basis to provide students with the necessary competencies
- The Physical Therapy Clinic on the Downers Grove Campus and Glendale Campus will remain open with limited patient sessions
- The Glendale Speech Language Clinic is closed for one week while they arrange for telemedicine
- The Downers Grove Speech Language Clinic will remain open on a limited basis
- The Glendale Podiatry Clinic will be open with limited patient sessions
- The Glendale Clinical Psychology Clinic will remain open with limited patient sessions
- The Eye Institutes on the Downers Grove and Glendale campus will remain open for emergency and critical care on a limited basis
- The Companion Animal Clinic will remain open on a limited basis. Pet owners and their pets will be asked to stay in their car until a faculty member can escort them into the clinic

Students on Clinical Rotation

- For any student on a clinical rotation that has been cancelled or postponed by one of our clinical providers, we will identify additional didactic course work that would relate to the rotation being postponed
- Faculty will begin preparing materials for these clinical students in the upcoming days

Counseling Centers and Other Student Services

- The Counseling Service will be available through teleconference and video sessions
- Student Services remains available to assist any student in housing or on campus that needs their services. Please call the department for more information

To all of our students

Please look upon this experience as a teaching experience. You are being equipped with the skills and knowledge of how to be a leader in a time of uncertainty. You cannot learn this in a simulation lab, it is the real life experience that will help mold you to become an excellent, caring health care provider who will understand the stress of the unknown.

I hope someday you look back on this experience and remember you were trained to be the best doctor, dentist, optometrist, pharmacist, veterinarian, podiatrist, medical scientist, clinical psychologist, physician assistant, occupation and physical therapist, nurse anesthetist, perfusionist and speech language specialist for your community.

To our entire community

I wish to encourage every member of our community, faculty, staff and students to remain vigilant in caring for themselves and their family. Let's practice healthy habits and good medicine. We have the responsibility of the well-being of many individuals and I know we can meet that challenge together.

Thank you for your continued support of Midwestern University.

Dr. G.