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### PURPOSE OF THIS COMPENDIUM

### Dear Samuel Merritt University Student;

This is a collection of guidelines, protocols and resource lists intended to provide guidance related to maintaining your health, safety, and achieving success as you navigate through the curriculum of your academic program during the 2020 – 2021 academic year. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the compendium since Spring 2020 and for your convenience, we've highlighted major changes in the content since November 2020 with blue text. There is a <u>faculty</u> version of this compendium available, which has essentially the same information as well as detailed guidance for your faculty to assist them in implementing the protocols and supporting you.

This compendium is a dynamic document, necessarily so, due to the ever-changing nature of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Our processes and protocols will adapt to the evidence-based recommendations promulgated by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the county public health departments (of Alameda, Sacramento, San Mateo, and Fresno) that determine the health, safety, and operational regulations we are obligated to follow. Our practices around COVID-19 prevention, reporting, and recommended management of various COVID scenarios are also consistent with those established for Sutter Health, SMU's parent organization. We meet or exceed the recommendations established in the <a href="COVID-19 Industry Guidance:">COVID-19 Industry Guidance:</a> Institutions of Higher Education, released on September 30, 2020 by the California Department of Public Health and CAL/OSHA.

At SMU, we have a COVID-19 management structure. There are three COVID-19 Committees: Executive Committee, Health, Safety & Operations, and Learning & Success. The chief administrator of your school (Dean of Nursing or Podiatric Medicine) or program/department (Chair of Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physician Assistant, Basic Sciences) are members of the Learning & Success Committee. They are your primary resource for the most up-to-date information about SMU's guidelines and practices related to COVID-19, and a primary avenue for you to voice your concerns or suggestions for improvement.

The <u>Coronavirus section</u> of the SMU website has more general information as well as student-specific resources/FAQs. Any questions or suggestions that you would like to submit anonymously to University leadership about COVID-19 matters can be done by <u>clicking here</u>.

On behalf of the SMU COVID-19 Committees, comprised of faculty, staff, and administrators committed to your health, safety, and success,

#### Fred Baldini, PhD

Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs Chair, Executive Committee

#### Celeste Villanueva, EdD, CRNA

Assistant Vice President, Academic Affairs Co-Chair, Health, Safety & Operations Committee

#### Michael Negrete, PharmD

Assistant Vice President, Academic Affairs Co-Chair, Learning & Success Committee

#### **Trevor Flanary**

SMU Safety & Security Specialist Co-Chair, Health, Safety & Operations Committee

#### Craig Elliott, PhD

Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs Co-Chair, Learning & Success Committee

## SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY COVID-19 COMMITTEES GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Our primary concern at Samuel Merritt University is for the health and safety of our students, faculty, staff, and their families.
- As future healthcare professionals, our students will continue to engage in clinical activities as assigned
  unless otherwise directed by the healthcare agency, the public health department, advisement of our
  infectious disease/public health experts, and after careful consideration by University executive leadership.
- Engagement in clinical activities is a **personal choice** of students and faculty.
- As future healthcare professionals, our students have an opportunity to model preventive practices that
  minimize the widespread community incidence of COVID-19. They also are in a position to be of service to
  communities in a time of great need and are encouraged to consider volunteer activities<sup>1</sup>. Students and all
  SMU employees are positioned to help mitigate stigma related to COVID-19 by knowing the facts and
  educating community members, and engaging in communication practices shown to minimize social stigma.
- Based on recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and advising
  physicians at Sutter Health, the best way to fight the virus is to avoid it. It's critical that we all help
  prevent the spread of COVID-19, and all communicable diseases, by strictly adhering to the fundamentals.
- Wash hands often, using correct technique
- Avoid close contact (< 6ft, > 15 min)
- Wear a mask when around others

- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Clean and disinfect
- Monitor health daily
- COVID-19 vaccination is one of the most important tools to end the pandemic. University leadership
  strongly endorses vaccination for all faculty, students, and staff, AND acknowledges that receiving the
  vaccine is a personal choice. SMU is an affiliate of Sutter Health (SH) therefore our students and employees
  are included in SH's vaccination program. Facilitating vaccination opportunities for our students and
  employees through SH and other entities is the responsibility of the COVID-19 committees, in collaboration
  with the Office of People and Culture.
  - o Once vaccinated, maintaining strict adherence to the fundamental safety measures is critical.
- Samuel Merritt University diligently monitors the COVID-19 situation, engages expert public health
  resources available to our decision-makers, and adjusts strategies and processes as the situation
  changes to ensure the health and safety of our community.
- SMU faculty, staff, academic and operations leaders maintain ongoing **contingency plans** to continue clinical experiences to the fullest extent possible, keep safety as the priority, minimize disruption to teaching and learning, and to continue business practices for the University.
- Transparent and regular communications, coordinated between the SMU Communications Director and the COVID-19 committees is essential.
- Student success is at the center of all our decisions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Students wishing to participate as a volunteer, specifically for COVID-related activities should first consult with their program dean, chair or director, who will then consult with the appropriate COVID committee chairs for advisement.

### See Appendix A1 – A12: Graphic Summaries of all Guideline Sets 1 through 6

FERPA and HIPAA requirements apply in the implementation of all Guidelines

### **DEFINITIONS** and ROLES of individuals/group referred to in the Health & Safety Guidelines

- Faculty: The SMU faculty managing a course in which a student is enrolled when they are faced with a) failing to pass the daily screening before coming to campus; b) confirmed or possible exposure to COVID-19; c) experiencing virus-associated symptoms; d) confirmed positive test result for COVID-19; or e) any other circumstance covered in the guidelines. Since students are enrolled in multiple courses per semester, they should follow communication guidance established by each academic program as to which course faculty to notify. Faculty do NOT function as healthcare providers for students except in emergency situations.
- Lead Program Administrator (LPA): The administrator designated to coordinate management of COVID-19 student issues for their program. This person communicates directly with the student, faculty, and all administrators/staff tasked with meeting SMU, SH and public health guidelines related to COVID-19. Students who test positive for the coronavirus are required to report this directly to the designated LPA. Academic program administrators at any level do NOT function as healthcare providers for students except in emergency situations.

Nursing Program	LPA
ABSN Oakland	Laureen Turner
ABSN SF Peninsula	Laurie Rosa
ABSN Sacramento	Megan Barretto
BSN	Tamara Valenta
ELMSN_PL OAK	Carmen Ward-Sullivan
ELMSN PL SAC	Megan Barretto
RN to BSN	Mark Beck
Case Management	Fusae Abbott
FNP OAK/ONLINE	Rhonda Ramirez
FNP SAC	Tal Sraboyant
PNA (CRNA)	Joe Janakes
DNP	Rebecca Rogers

Program	LPA
CSPM	Eric Stamps
DPT	Nicole Christensen
OT	Kate Hayner
PA	Michael DeRosa

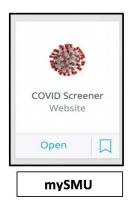
- Director, Student Health and Counseling (SHAC): This position is filled by a licensed health care
  professional, whose sole function is to provide clinical oversight for health-related concerns for students and
  ensure their ongoing compliance with University requirements. The SHAC Director is Nina Lavorini, FNP-C.
  To arrange for direct communication with Ms. Lavorini, any SMU student at all campuses may call
  510.879.9288. Students who test positive for the coronavirus are required to report this directly to the SHAC
  Director. The Director of the SHAC has the sole responsibility for clearing students to return to
  clinical/campus.
- Primary Care Provider (PCP): This is the healthcare professional you choose to provide your primary care, and where students get the direct care required for any health needs, including COVID-19 symptoms. All students must provide documentation of compliance for University clinical requirements into the SHAC Portal (student EHR). Documentation generally comes from the student's PCP, although immunizations may come from other health care agencies. For the purposes of clinical documentation for compliance, including COVID-19 clearance, the PCP must be licensed to practice and ethically able to treat the student.
- Sutter Health Sacramento Employee Health Service (SHS EHS): Students enrolled in programs based
  on the Sacramento campus may access healthcare services provided to Sutter Health employees by calling
  916.887.4430. These EHS services are not available to students enrolled in Oakland- or SF Peninsulabased programs.

Students: Use this set of guidelines if you did not pass the daily online screening questionnaire (Step 4, a-d), or if you did not pass the physical entry screening at a clinical agency (Step 7).

1. Complete the COVID-19 Entrance Screening Questionnaire, which all employees, students, and visitors at all SMU campuses are required to complete each day one plans to come to campus, **ideally prior to arrival** on campus that day.

You can access the questionnaire in several ways:

https://webapps.samuelmerritt.edu/covidscreener/





If you are unable to complete the questionnaire prior to arrival, the screening questionnaire will be accessible at all campus entrances for completion before proceeding to building entry.

As you complete the questionnaire, bear in mind that no symptom associated with COVID-19 is too mild to ignore. See Appendix A-1 for a summary of steps 1 through 4 of this set of guidelines.

- a. The questionnaire result is either a green-boxed, "eligible" to proceed to the building entrance for temperature screening with your name, date, and time noted, or a red-boxed "not eligible" with your name, date, and time noted.
  - i. If you are eligible, proceed to item 2
  - ii. If you are not eligible, proceed to item 3
- 2. After receiving the result that you are *eligible* to proceed to a campus building entrance, you have the option to print it or leave it on the browser on your phone/mobile device. A message from webmaster@samuelmerritt.edu will also be emailed to you.
  - a. Be prepared to show your eligibility confirmation upon arrival on campus.
  - b. Proceed to item 5 for further guidance.
- 3. After receiving the message that you are **not eligible** to proceed to campus, and you believe this is due to user error, you may retake the questionnaire once. Be prepared for follow up from a University official to validate your reason for retaking the COVID-19 Health Screening Questionnaire on that day.
- 4. After receiving the message that you are **not eligible** to proceed to campus as a result of a YES response to an item/items on the questionnaire, you have the option to print it, or save it as a screenshot or any other digital form (for documentation purposes). A message from <u>webmaster@samuelmerritt.edu</u> will also be emailed to you.
  - a. A result of *not eligible* in this case indicates that you are experiencing a new-onset (within 48-hrs) symptom (or symptoms), or you have been in close, unprotected contact with a COVID-19 positive individual. Please go or stay home.

- b. If you answered YES to the question regarding close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual without wearing appropriate PPE and you are asymptomatic, refer to Guideline Set 5.
- c. If you answered YES on the questionnaire for either of the two reasons listed below (i or ii), you may be having COVID-related symptoms. Please see Guideline Set 2 for recommended next steps
  - i. If you have a fever ≥ 100F (37.8C)
  - ii. If you have a fever (as above, especially associated with chills) and any new respiratory symptom (cough, difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, severe wheezing)
- d. If you answered YES to <u>any of the other</u> symptoms or situations listed on the questionnaire, AND you think those symptoms are not COVID related but want to be sure, AND you need clearance from a healthcare professional because you are required to be on campus:
  - i. Notify your faculty that you are not eligible to come to campus that day.
  - ii. Call the SHAC (510.879.9288) to make an appointment with Director Nina Lavorini. Students from all campuses have access to this consultation service. Ms. Lavorini will contact you and provide guidance<sup>2</sup> regarding next steps.
  - iii. Review the CDC website's page on <u>Symptoms of Coronavirus</u> for guidance and access the *Coronavirus Self-Checker* (See Appendix B). If you plan to consult Ms. Lavorini, you will be asked to use the *Self-Checker* prior to speaking with her.
  - iv. Sacramento-based students have the option to use the services of SHS EHS. Call 916-887-4430 to request consultation.
  - v. Everyone has the option to consult their PCP to determine if symptom/symptoms constitute indicators of the coronavirus and/or warrant further diagnostic/therapeutic action.
- e. In the event you ARE determined to have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection, see Guideline Set 2 for recommended next steps.
- f. If it is determined by the SHAC Director that your current symptoms do NOT warrant further action, a clearance note will be placed in your *Medicat*<sup>3</sup> portal. Your LPA will be able to check for the presence of your clearance documentation. After receiving clearance from the SHAC Director, consult your LPA to determine when you should next attempt entry to campus or to the clinical agency (if you did not pass the screening test at the agency). See Appendix A-2.
- g. If it is determined by your PCP or a provider at Sutter EHS that your current symptoms do NOT warrant further action, obtain documentation of clearance from the healthcare provider who advised you on this matter. Upload any documentation into *Medicat*, which will be confirmed by the SHAC Director. Your LPA will then be able to check for the presence of clearance documentation. After receiving clearance, consult your faculty to determine when you should next attempt entry to campus or to the clinical agency (if you did not pass the screening test at the agency). See Appendix A-2.

### SCREENING PROCESS ONCE ON CAMPUS

- 5. For those who receive an **eligible** result on the screening questionnaire, there will be designated entry points on all campuses to access the skills labs, simulation center, or other rooms where learning sessions are conducted. Please be sure to bring a mask and **wear it**, strictly adhering to CDC guidelines.
  - a. Oakland Campus: 450 30th Main Entrance (Peralta Pavilion, blue awning entrance), and 3100 Telegraph St (Peralta Medical Office Building)
  - b. San Francisco Peninsula Campus: Classroom 2 on the 3rd floor
  - c. Sacramento Campus: 2nd Floor Landing, Rear Entrance (North side of building)
  - d. Fresno Campus: Main Entrance

<sup>2</sup> The purpose of the consultation is to advise a student if their symptom/symptoms constitute indicators of the coronavirus and/or warrant further diagnostic/therapeutic action.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Medicat* is your individual student health portal, accessed by you, via your single sign on credentials, and authorized SHAC personnel. There is a separate software platform (Argos) that faculty/administrators will access for confirmation of clearance documentation that has been uploaded to *Medicat*.

- 6. After completing a successful screening process at the campus entry point (temperature check and verbal symptom check):
  - a. an identification marker will be placed on your SMU ID Badge to signify you have been through the symptom and temperature screening process. The color-coded marker allows you to enter and exit throughout the day, as needed.
  - b. you will be expected to comply with the current PPE protocol:
    - i. A new, disposable procedure mask will be provided to, which you should use throughout the day while you are on campus. You can use a personal cloth masks while on general campus areas, but you must use the new procedure mask when engaging in lab/simulation activities, or any activity where you have to potential to be in close contact (< 6 ft, > 15 cumulative minutes) with other individuals. Review the PPE protocol for recommendations related to double masks.
    - ii. Eye protection, in the form of a face shield, goggles, or safety glasses is required during inperson learning activities (lab/simulation/other) and recommended at all times when on campus and in the presence of others. A face shield that covers to the chin <u>is the preferred</u> <u>equipment</u> for eye protection as, in concert with a properly worn mask, it will also provide a second barrier to the spread of aerosolized particles or droplets from your nose or mouth. SMU provides this eye protection. Review the PPE protocol for PPE provision processes.
  - c. proceed directly to your intended destination. Follow directions/signage for traffic flow through the buildings and maintain safe social distancing. Social gathering is not allowed.
- 7. If you will be entering another building on campus on the same day, you will not have to repeat the screening process as long as you have the appropriate identification marker attached to your ID badge.
- 8. If you do not meet the acceptable temperature range after 2 readings, (temperature < 100.0° F/ 37.7C), please plan to return home immediately and follow the steps delineated in Guideline Set 2.

### GUIDELINE SET 2: IF YOU ARE SYMPTOMATIC AND TEST NEGATIVE OR DO NOT GET TESTED

See Appendix A-3 and A-4 for a graphic summary of steps 1-4.

- If you have a fever (≥ 100F/37.8C), cough or <u>other symptoms</u>, you might have COVID-19. Go home or stay home. Most people have mild illness and are able to recover at home. Click here to review the CDC guidelines on <u>"What To Do If You Are Sick"</u>. The main points are:
   If you think you may have been exposed to COVID-19, contact your PCP.
  - a. Self-quarantine, and self-monitor for symptoms, and seek evaluation from a healthcare provider if respiratory symptoms recur or worsen. Use the <u>CDC Coronavirus Self Checker</u> as a resource.
  - b. In alignment with SH guidelines, SMU recommends getting tested for COVID-19 if you are exhibiting symptoms.
  - c. If you have an emergency warning sign (including trouble breathing), get emergency medical care immediately.

### 2. SMU requirements for symptom/status reporting:

- a. Notify your faculty that you are ill this is a requirement regardless of type of illness. It is not required to disclose to your faculty that you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- b. However, you are required to disclose to your LPA that you are experiencing <u>COVID-19 symptoms</u>. Your personal health information and personally identifiable information will be protected.
- c. If you think you may have exposed another SMU student, faculty or staff to the coronavirus within 2-days (48-hrs) of the onset of your symptom(s), follow CDC guidelines to notify people you were around during your 2-day infectious period so they can monitor their health (see "Separate yourself from other people"). Your LPA must be aware if you have chosen to notify SMU people they are best positioned to ensure clear communication about potential exposure and any actions to take.
- d. If your symptoms have lasted less than 72-hours (mild/moderate illness), you are not required to report your status to the SHAC, especially if you have received guidance from your PCP. If you have symptoms that last more than 72-hours and/or are worsening, see Guideline Set 3.
- e. Communicate regularly with your faculty and LPA to keep them apprised of your status, and to receive guidance regarding adjustments in course/clinical work.
- f. If you require guidance as to next steps you can contact a) the SHAC Director (510.879.9288); b) SHS EHS if you are based in Sacramento (916.887.4430); or c) your PCP.

### 3. Determining safe return to campus or a clinical setting:

- a. If you have had symptoms and do not get tested, do not return to campus/clinical until:
  - i. It has been at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared and
  - ii. at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication and
  - iii. symptoms have improved.4
  - iv. You are cleared by the SHAC Director
- b. If you have had symptoms and test negative, do not return to campus/clinical until all your symptoms are resolved and you demonstrate compliance with any applicable additional affiliate or local health authority requirements<sup>5</sup> (i.e., you must be able to pass the <u>SMU COVID Screener</u>), and you upload your negative results into *Medicat* and are cleared by the SHAC Director.

### 4. Before you return to campus/clinical:

- a. Consult with the SHAC Director, a SHS EHS healthcare provider (Sacramento students) or your PCP to receive documented clearance to return to campus or clinical. See Appendix A-4 for a summary of how to document clearance for return to campus/clinical.
- b. Check in with the faculty with whom you have been in communication. They will receive confirmation from the LPA regarding your return to campus or clinical.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This aligns with CDC guidelines on When You Can Be Around Others After You Had or Likely Had Covid-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> This is consistent with Sutter Health's Covid-19 Updated Return to Work Protocol for Symptomatic Employees (Updated 08/31/20). Note: SMU, as a local affiliate, requires those coming to campus to be symptom-free for 48 hours (per COVID screener).

### GUIDELINE SET 3: IF YOU ARE SYMPTOMATIC AND TEST POSITIVE, OR ARE DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19 WITHOUT BEING TESTED (PRESUMPTIVE POSITIVE)

See Appendix A-5 and A-6 for a graphic summary of steps 1-5.

- 1. If you have been sick with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 make sure you <u>follow CDC guidelines</u> to care for yourself and protect others in your home and community.
- 2. SMU requirements for symptom/status reporting:
  - a. You are required to report to the SHAC Director and your LPA if:
    - i. your COVID-19 symptoms have lasted more than 72 hours
    - ii. you have been diagnosed by your PCP or other qualified healthcare professional, as having COVID-19 (presumptive positive)
    - iii. you are symptomatic and tested positive
  - b. To report your situation to SHAC, call 510.879.9288. Ask to speak to the SHAC Director, who will call you back if she is not immediately available. Your timely communication with the SHAC Director and your LPA is critical.
  - c. Upload your COVID-19 test result to Medicat.
  - d. You will be contacted by both the SHAC Director and your LPA who will gather key details of your COVID status. Both of these individuals will ask similar questions to serve parallel purposes: your health and safety, the health and safety of the community (both internal and external to SMU), and to meet time-sensitive notification requirements of public health departments and Sutter Health.
  - e. You should also be contacted by an authorized/trained <u>contact tracer</u> from the department public health to provide close contact information as well as provide the required health and exposure history.
  - f. Your LPA will also obtain information from you regarding your close contacts. This does not substitute for the work of a contact tracer it does contribute to minimizing the potential for others in the SMU community to contract the virus.
  - g. Guidance related to next steps for managing your COVID symptoms is available from the SHAC Director or healthcare professionals at the SHS EHS for students in Sacramento (916.887.4430). Consulting your PCP for management of your illness is strongly advised.
  - h. Notify your faculty that you are ill, as is required for any type of illness. You have the option to disclose to them that you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or have been diagnosed with COVID-19, or the results of your COVID-19 test. Your personal health information and personally identifiable information will be protected.
  - i. Communicate regularly with your faculty to keep them apprised of your absent status, and to receive guidance regarding adjustments in course/clinical work.

### 3. In order to be cleared to return to campus or clinical work, ALL of the following criteria must be met<sup>6</sup>:

- a. 10 calendar days or more have passed since the onset of symptoms.
- b. Resolution of symptoms:
  - i. Resolution of breathing problems or diarrhea (if they were present)
  - ii. At least 1 day (24 hours) have passed since resolution of fever (below 100.0) without the use of fever-reducing medications.
  - iii. Cough should be improved but lingering cough may persist and does not preclude the student (or faculty) from returning to work.
- c. Compliance with any applicable additional affiliate or local health authority requirements (i.e., must be able to pass the SMU COVID-19 Screener).
- d. Clearance by the SHAC director.
- 4. If criteria 3a through c are met, there is **no requirement to test negative.** Research has established that persons in these circumstances are no longer shedding infectious virus, even though they may sometimes continue to test positive for weeks or months after being contagious.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> SMU policy aligns with the Sutter Health Covid-19 Return to Work Policy for Symptomatic Employees (Updated August 31, 2020). Note: SMU, as a local affiliate, requires those coming to campus to be symptom-free for 48 hours (COVID screener).

### 5. Before you return to campus/clinical:

- a. Documentation that you have met criteria for clearance must be provided by an EHS healthcare provider (Sacramento students) or your primary care provider. See Appendix A-6 for a summary of how to document clearance for return to school/clinical.
- b. Notify the SHAC Director of your status, letting them know that you have, or will be obtaining documentation of clearance from a qualified healthcare provider.
- c. Check in with the faculty and the LPA who has been communicating with you. Faculty will receive confirmation from the LPA regarding your return to campus or clinical.

See Appendix A-7 and A-8 for a graphic summary of Steps 1 - 4.

1. **Stay or go home.** Self-monitor and self-isolate as your situation allows, and practice CDC guidelines/measures to <a href="Prevent Getting Sick.">Prevent Getting Sick.</a>

#### 2. SMU requirements for status reporting:

- a. If you have received a confirmed positive test result, you are required to report this to the SHAC Director and your LPA.
- b. To report your situation to SHAC, call 510.879.9288. Ask to speak to the SHAC Director, who will call you back if she is not immediately available. Your timely communication with the SHAC Director and your LPA is critical.
- c. Upload your COVID-19 test result to Medicat.
- d. You will be contacted by both the SHAC Director and LPA who will gather key details of your COVID status. Both of these individuals will ask similar questions to serve parallel purposes: your health and safety, the health and safety of the community (both internal and external to SMU), and to meet time-sensitive notification of public health departments and Sutter Health.
- e. You should also be contacted by an authorized/trained <u>contact tracer</u> from the department public health to provide close contact information as well and to confirm the absence of symptoms.
- f. Your LPA will also obtain information regarding your close contacts. This does not substitute for the work of a contact tracer it does contribute to minimizing the potential for others in the SMU community to contract the virus.
- g. It is your choice to report your COVID status directly to faculty. Your personal health information and personally identifiable information will be protected if you do so. You ARE required to notify them of your absence from campus or clinical.
- h. Plan to communicate regularly with your faculty and program administrator to keep them apprised of your absent status, and to receive guidance regarding adjustments in course/clinical work.
- i. Guidance is available from the SHAC Director or healthcare professionals at the SHS EHS for students in Sacramento (916.887.4430).

### 3. In order to be cleared to return to campus or clinical work, the following criterion must be met<sup>7</sup>:

- a. Continuous absence of symptoms 10 days after testing.
- b. If you develop symptoms after testing positive, follow the instructions in Guidelines Set 3 for returning to campus/clinical.

#### 4. Before you return to campus/clinical:

- a. Documentation that you have met criterion for clearance (3a above) must be provided by your PCP or healthcare provider from the SHS EHS (for Sacramento students). See Appendix A-8 for a summary of how to document clearance for return to school/clinical.
- b. Get clearance from the SHAC Director, letting her know that you have, or will be, obtaining documentation of clearance from a qualified healthcare provider. Upload your clearance document to *Medicat*.
- c. Check in with the faculty who has been communicating with you. They will receive confirmation from a program administrator regarding your return to campus or clinical.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This aligns with CDC guidelines found under When you Can Be Around Others After You Had or Likely Had Covid 19

### GUIDELINE SET 5: YOU ARE INFORMED THAT YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO A PERSON WHO MAY HAVE COVID-19 (THE PERSON IS AWAITING TEST RESULTS/DIAGNOSIS)

See Appendix A-9 and A-10 for a graphic summary of steps 1 - 4.

- 1. If you are informed<sup>8</sup> that you have been exposed to an individual who has met criteria for quarantine and is awaiting results of a <u>diagnostic viral test</u>, you should **follow directions from your LPA.** In this situation, the CDC guidelines for <u>When to Quarantine</u> are applied. The main points are:
  - **a.** People who have been in close contact with the potentially infected person need to quarantine and self-monitor until the aforementioned person's COVID status is confirmed. Your LPA will consult with COVID-19 committee members designated to determine who meets criteria for quarantine.
  - **b.** People who have been in close contact with the potentially infected person AND have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months, AND recovered, AND who have not developed new symptoms do not need to quarantine in this situation.
  - **c.** People who have been in close contact with the potentially infected person AND have been fully vaccinated against the virus AND show no symptoms do not need to quarantine in this situation.
  - **d.** If you are given instructions regarding steps to take in this situation by a public health official or hospital administrator, share this information with your LPA, who will confirm with you the steps to take while the aforementioned person's COVID status is confirmed.

### 2. SMU requirements for reporting:

- a. If you are informed that you have been exposed to a person *who may have* COVID-19 by someone other than your LPA (e.g., a fellow student, faculty or staff), contact your LPA to ensure that they are aware of the situation.
- b. If you are symptomatic for COVID-19 at the time you are informed of the potential exposure, **go home or stay home**, and follow SMU Guideline Set 2 or Guideline Set 3.

### 3. The criteria for returning to school/clinical depends on the test result of the person to whom you were exposed

- a. If the person who has been tested is confirmed as positive for COVID-19 and you remain asymptomatic follow Step 7 9 in Guideline 6. Your LPA will confirm this next step with you.
- b. If the person who has been tested receives a negative test result:
  - i. Your LPA will confirm with you that you are allowed to return to campus or clinical (assuming you have maintained quarantine properly and are asymptomatic).

### 4. Before you return to campus/clinical:

a. Your LPA must clearly communicate clearance for return to you and your faculty.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> There are multiple possible sources of this information: a) the person who tested positive; b) a contact tracer from the public health department; c) a hospital administrator/manager/clinical educator manager from clinical agency; d) your faculty or LPA

### GUIDELINE SET 6: YOU ARE INFORMED THAT YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO A PERSON WHO HAS CONFIRMED POSITIVE TEST RESULTS FOR COVID-19

See Appendix A-11 and A-12 for a graphic summary of steps 1 - 6.

### 1. If you are informed that you have been exposed to an individual who has received confirmed positive results of a diagnostic viral test, you should:

- a. Ask and/or determine as much information about the specific circumstances as possible so that you can assist in contact tracing. These questions include, but are not limited to:
  - i. When were you likely exposed? Note: a person who has tested positive could have potentially exposed you to the virus starting 48- hours before testing positive or before the onset of symptoms.
  - ii. How long you were exposed to the individual--did you meet the criteria for close contact, i.e., <6 ft, for a total of > 15 min? Note: even if you were wearing a mask, this does not mean you did NOT have close contact.
  - iii. Was the person you were exposed to symptomatic at the time of exposure?

### 2. SMU requirements for reporting:

- **a.** Immediately notify your LPA. They will gather information about your COVID status and the circumstances of your exposure to determine next steps.
- **b.** If a public health official or hospital administrator gave you instructions for next steps, notify your LPA to ensure they are aware of you're the information this helps to ensure a shared mental model of your situation.
- **c.** Communicate regularly with your faculty and LPA to keep them apprised of your status, and to receive guidance regarding adjustments in course/clinical work.
- 3. If you are symptomatic for COVID-19 at the time you are informed of your exposure, **go home or stay home**, and follow SMU Guideline Set 2 or Guideline Set 3.
  - a. If you require guidance as to next steps you can contact a) the SHAC Director (510.879.9288); b) SHS EHS for students in Sacramento (916-887-4430); c) your PCP.
- 4. If you are asymptomatic at the time you are informed of your exposure, follow:
  - a. the <u>CDC Guidance for Asymptomatic Healthcare Personnel Who Were Exposed to Individuals with Confirmed COVID-19</u> (these guidelines are specifically written for exposures that take place in patient care settings).
    - i. a critical determination of work restrictions is whether or not you met criteria for close contact (< 6 ft for a total of ≥15 min), AND if you were using appropriate PPE (see CDC guidelines)
  - b. the <u>CDC Public Health Guidance for Community Related Exposure</u> (these guidelines are specifically written for exposures that take place in on campus settings).
    - i. the determination for close contact (< 6 ft for a total of ≥ 15 min) is important to know, as well as specific details regarding the individual to whom you were exposed. (see CDC guidelines).

### 5. The criteria for returning to school/clinical depends on the restrictions you were placed on

- a. If you remained asymptomatic for a full 14-day quarantine period, you should be able to return.
- b. There are options to reduce quarantine. Your LPA will consult with the appropriate COVID-19 Committee members to determine if you meet criteria for reduced quarantine.

### 6. Before you return to campus/clinical:

- a. You must have clearance from the SHAC Director. You may or may not have to submit negative test results before returning to campus/clinical. The SHAC Director will provide guidance.
- b. If you do have negative COVID-19 test results, upload the document to your Medicat portal.
- c. You may or may not be required to submit clearance documentation related to absence of symptoms. The SHAC Director will provide guidance, and if documentation is necessary, she will provide confirmation of the presence of all clearance documentation for the LPA.
- d. Communicate with the program faculty/LPA who has been following your COVID status to ensure that all clearance requirements have been met.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> There are multiple possible sources of this information: a) the person who tested positive; b) a contact tracer from the public health department; c) a hospital administrator/manager/clinical educator manager from clinical agency; d) a SMU administrator or faculty.

## COVID-19 PROTOCOL: PARTICIPATION IN ON-CAMPUS LEARNING SESSIONS<sup>10</sup> (FACULTY AND STUDENTS)

This protocol was established in accordance with the guidance of the Health Officer Orders from Alameda, Sacramento, and San Mateo counties, allowing "universities to resume activities for the purposes of facilitating distance learning, or career internship or pathways, provided that social distancing of six feet per person is maintained to the greatest extent possible." The protocol adheres to current CDC guidelines, guidance from public health department officials, and is endorsed by SMU's Infectious Disease advisor.<sup>11</sup>

While the nature of educational activities performed in this environment (lab, simulation space, classroom) prevents the continuous application of "physical distancing," other precautions are being made to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Specifically, SMU has implemented protocols for symptom screening, hand washing/sanitizing, room/equipment cleaning, organization of students into stable groups of 12 or fewer individuals, and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) per guidance from local, state and national health authorities. When you enter campus areas specifically designated for on-campus learning sessions, you agree to carefully follow all safety instructions including those related to the use of PPE and hand washing/sanitizing.

Students with health-related concerns may choose not to participate in these activities, and are instructed to contact their program's dean, director, or chair to discuss the potential for alternative arrangements and/or implications in their ability to progress through the curriculum. Faculty with health-related concerns should consult with the Office of People and Culture.

### I. Prior to arrival on campus for all assigned sessions:

- 1. Complete the steps in Guideline Set 1 of this document, which describes the COVID-19 screening process and some safety measures for being on campus.
- 2. Students: Carefully review instructions provided by the course faculty regarding the day's activity. Faculty, please provide clear guidance for your students.

#### Guidance

 Note the initial meeting place for your session, and understand the flow of activity for the day.

 Students will be assigned as a member of a small group (no more than 12); this group assignment should be maintained throughout the course of your session.

### Rationale

The goal is to minimize unnecessary wandering of individuals on campus, best avoided by each person's intentional movement from one location to another. Directional signage will be posted to assist you.

Small, consistent grouping enhances one's ability to trace contacts made by an individual on any given day should the need arise.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> On-campus learning sessions are activities that constitute components of an academic program's curriculum that have been deemed, by the program dean, chair, or director, as necessary to conduct in face-to-face fashion. These sessions will be scheduled in skills labs, simulation facilities, and some classrooms on all campuses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> John Swartzberg, M.D., clinical professor emeritus (Infectious Diseases and Vaccinology) at UC Berkeley's School of Public Health; chair of the editorial board of the School of Public Health's Health & Wellness Publications; member, SMU Board of Regents.

c. In addition to standard tools/equipment, you may be required to bring specific equipment or supplies for a particular learning activity. Plan to bring only the equipment anticipated to be used for a session (e.g., for nursing students, should not bring full supply bags every day unless specifically instructed to do so).

Access to spaces to store personal belongings (e.g., lockers) will be limited in order to allow for consistent, thorough sanitizing of hard, smooth surfaces between use by different individuals. Multiple groups of students will be rotating through the instructional areas throughout the day.

- 3. If you will be going to a session scheduled in the Health Sciences Simulation Center (HSSC). Review the HSSC Student Protocol for Return to Labs/Simulation.
- 4. Practice recommended clothing and shoe hygiene.
  - a. Healthcare workers should be encouraged to maintain a dedicated pair of shoes for work inside the hospital/clinical setting. This is a best practice in general, and not specific to COVID-19<sup>12</sup>. Shoes worn for on-campus learning sessions should not be the shoes worn in the clinical setting.
    - i. If having a pair of shoes dedicated to clinical work is not feasible, a recommended practice is to clean the surfaces (including soles) of shoes worn in a clinical setting with a disinfectant wipe.
  - b. Dress in the attire required by your academic program for the learning activities you will be attending on campus (scrubs/uniforms, business casual). To date, there are no CDC guidelines specifically around scrubs/uniforms of healthcare professionals. Available research indicates that the novel coronavirus lives on fabrics for a short period of time. According to infectious disease experts, the risk for transmitting the virus through clothing while interacting in the SMU on-campus learning environment is low, but not absent.
    - i. Clothing worn to participate in the learning sessions should have been laundered since being worn in a community or clinical setting.
    - ii. SMU is not requiring participants in on-campus learning sessions to change clothes worn during the session prior to leaving campus it is an individual's option to do so. Interim guidance from the Association of Linen Management<sup>13</sup> may be helpful in determining steps to launder clothes worn while on campus.
- 5. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) the full PPE protocol can be reviewed here.
  - a. A new, disposable procedure mask will be provided to, which you should use throughout the day while you are on campus. You can use a personal cloth masks while on general campus areas, but you must use the new procedure mask when engaging in lab/simulation activities, or any activity where you have to potential to be in close contact (< 6 ft, > 15 cumulative minutes) with other individuals. Review the full PPE protocol for recommendations related to double masks.
  - b. Eye protection, in the form of a face shield, goggles, or safety glasses is required during in-person learning activities (lab/simulation/other) and recommended at all times when on campus and in the presence of others. A face shield that covers to the chin <u>is the preferred equipment</u> for eye protection as, in concert with a properly worn mask, it will also provide a second barrier to the spread of aerosolized particles or droplets from your nose or mouth. SMU provides this eye protection. Review the PPE protocol for PPE provision processes.
  - c. Other appropriate PPE for each on-campus learning activity (e.g., gloves, gowns) will be provided for you.
- 6. Plan to bring the minimal personal belongings along with the necessary equipment and supplies. The rationale for this is indicated in item 2c, above.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Sutter Health Emergency Management System (SHEMS) Covid-19 Daily Flash, May 1, 2020

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>Association of Linen Management - Interim Guidance for Healthcare Personnel. Home Washing Personal Uniform/Srub Apparel During Covid-19 Pandemic

### II. Arrival on campus:

- 1. Parking (Oakland): Student and faculty/employee parking is available according to routine Sutter/SMU policies. If you have paid for parking, you will have access to the parking garage.
- 2. There will be specific entry points on all campuses to access the skills labs, simulation center, or other rooms where learning sessions are conducted
  - a. Oakland Campus:
    - 450 30th Main Entrance (Peralta Pavilion, blue awning entrance)
    - 3100 Telegraph St (Peralta Medical Office Building, front door)
  - b. San Francisco Peninsula Campus: Classroom 2 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor
  - c. Sacramento Campus: 2nd Floor Landing, Rear Entrance (North side of building)
  - d. Fresno Campus: Main Entrance
- 3. Arrive approximately 15 minutes before your session is scheduled to begin
  - a. Earlier is not necessarily better as social gathering on campus is not allowed.
  - b. Proceed through the screening process.
- 4. When you have competed the screening process at a building entry and have the color-coded marker placed on your SMU ID badge, proceed immediately to the designated meeting place. Follow directions/signage for traffic flow through the buildings and maintain safe distancing. You will not have to repeat the screening process as long as you have the appropriate marker designated for a given day attached to your ID badge.
- 5. Once in your learning session, you are expected to adhere to all safety measures enforced by faculty and staff. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

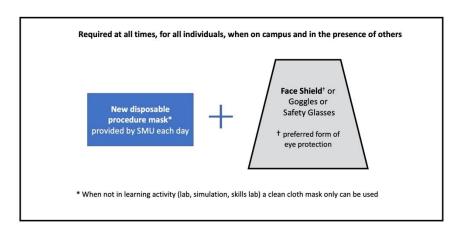
## COVID-19 PROTOCOL: PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

#### PPE FOR THE CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT

SMU's COVID-19 policies and practices related to PPE follow the most current CDC guidelines and are vetted for the University's specific teaching settings by our infectious disease and public health expert<sup>14</sup>, who is familiar with the SMU campus environments and the types of learning activities allowed during pandemic restrictions.

Personal Protective Equipment guidelines for all individuals (students, faculty, staff, visitors) when on any campus and in the presence of others:

- 1. A **new disposable procedure mask**<sup>15</sup> that is provided by SMU each time you arrive on campus. You may use personal cloth masks while in general campus areas, but everyone is required to use the <u>new procedure mask</u> during in-person learning activities (lab/simulation/other). Key point: a mask must be worn at all times when on campus and in the presence of others.
- 2. Eye protection, in the form of a face shield, goggles, or safety glasses is required during in-person learning activities (lab/simulation/other) and recommended at all times when on campus and in the presence of others. A face shield that covers to the chin is the preferred equipment for eye protection as, in concert with a properly worn mask, it will also provide a second barrier to the spread of aerosolized particles or droplets from your nose or mouth. See section on Provision of PPE.



Appropriate modification of the mask requirement for all individuals (students, faculty, staff, visitors) when on any campus and in the presence of others:

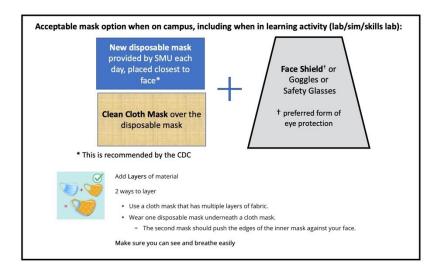
The CDC provides guidance on ways to <u>improve how a mask or masks provides protection</u>. There are several options to add layers of mask protection. Here are the key principles that apply to mask use while on campus premises:

- Make sure your mask or combination of masks fits as snugly as possible against your face, covering your nose and mouth.
- The disposable mask must be a new one that is provided to you each day that you enter campus.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> John Swartzberg, M.D., clinical professor emeritus (Infectious Diseases and Vaccinology) at UC Berkeley's School of Public Health; chair of the editorial board of the School of Public Health's Health & Wellness Publications; member, SMU Board of Regents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> The definition of procedure (or procedural) mask for the purpose of this protocol is equivalent to the definition of *surgical* mask on the <u>COVID19.CA.GOV</u> webpage for <u>Masks and face coverings</u>. This definition aligns with the <u>CDC's distinction</u> between a surgical mask and a N95 respirator. Surgical masks with four ties attached, (as opposed to ear loops) are specifically used in perioperative settings – these are NOT the masks used for PPE while individuals are on campus.

- If a cloth mask is worn, it must be clean.
- Wearing 2 disposable masks simultaneously does not improve mask fit.



### **Provision of PPE**

- SMU provides face shields or goggles for all students and faculty, and face shields for staff and visitors who
  wish to wear one while on campus and in the presence of others. This equipment is distributed according to
  a process established by your particular academic program or department. For students, the course faculty
  will have this information. For faculty and staff, your supervisor/manager will have this information.
  - The face shield provided by SMU is reusable (as are most face shields) if cleaned properly with disinfectant. In the interest of maintaining adequate supplies of this PPE product, users are strongly encouraged to plan on multiple use of a single shield. When a face shield is in disrepair or cannot be satisfactorily cleaned and requires replacement, a new shield will be provided according to the procedure established by your program or department.
  - Goggles or safety glasses are acceptable forms of eye protection provided the specific product has been approved by the HS&O Committee<sup>16</sup>.
    - Each program's lead administrator<sup>17</sup> or the supervisor/manager of a department is responsible for a) obtaining HS&O approval, b) determining the product volume required for purchase; c) ordering and paying for the products, and d) determining the method for initial and any subsequent distribution to students, faculty or staff.
    - Goggles and glasses are re-usable if cleaned properly with disinfectant. If goggles or glasses are in disrepair or cannot be satisfactorily cleaned and requires replacement, new equipment will be provided according to the procedure established by your program or department.
- 2. You may purchase your own face shield, goggles or glasses provided the specific product has been approved by the HS&O Committee approval is facilitated through the program lead administrators (see footnote 7).
- 3. You are responsible for cleaning (see next section), storing, bringing <u>and wearing</u> your eye protection equipment throughout every in-person learning session you attend. If you do not have your eye protection equipment with you when you arrive at your session, you will not be allowed to participate until you have the required equipment. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disciplinary action.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Approval provided by HS&O Committee Co-Chairs. CDC, OSHA, and Sutter Health PPE guidelines will form the basis for approval

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Dean (or their designate) or department Chair

4. Other appropriate PPE for each on-campus learning activity (e.g., gloves, gowns) will be provided for students, faculty or staff as required.

### Supporting rationale for PPE protocol

A plethora of evidence and rationale is available in the scientific literature to support the requirement to wear masks. <u>This UCSF article</u> summarizes the science behind how face masks prevent the spread of coronavirus and provides links to several recent studies about mask efficacy.

Eye protection is required for health care workers in the clinical setting to protect the wearer from potentially contracting the virus through respiratory droplets to the mucous membranes of the conjunctiva. Our on-campus PPE policy adopts this same level of protection for students and faculty during lab or simulation sessions since periods of proximity of < 6 feet are possible in these settings and PPE for the eyes will afford an added barrier for this mode of virus transmission.

### CLEANING PROTOCOLS FOR EYE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT<sup>18</sup>

PPE	CLEANING PROTOCOLS
SAFETY GOGGLES or GLASSES	Wear clean gloves.
	<ul> <li>Hold the goggles by the side and wipe the back and front parts of the lens as well as the bridge with an approved disinfectant wipe.</li> <li>Switch your hold to the bridge of the goggles and then wipe down the side shields (if applicable) and straps.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Keep damp for contact time</li> <li>Dampen gauze with water and wipe off dried disinfectant on inner area facing eyes</li> <li>Leave cleaned/disinfected goggles on a clean surface or in a clean storage</li> </ul>
FACE SHIELDS	Porous sponge headbands must be removed prior to disinfection, if applicable.
SPDISH SIMU	<ul> <li>Wear clean gloves</li> <li>Wipe down the outer and inner side of the face shield including the non-porous headband with an approved disinfectant wipe</li> <li>Keep damp for contact time</li> <li>Dampen gauze with water and wipe off dried disinfectant on inner side</li> <li>Leave cleaned/disinfected goggles on the isolation cart</li> <li>Remove gloves and clean hands with soap &amp; water or hand sanitizer</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Sutter Health Employee PPE Guidebook (November 2, 2020 update)

### PPE FOR THE CLINICAL ENVIRONMENT

Guidelines for provision of PPE for students and faculty in the clinical setting are delineated in the compendium. In essence, the SMU contracts with clinical agencies for student experiences are expected to stipulate the provision of appropriate PPE for students.

If you require **eye protection** for your clinical assignment and the clinical agency is not providing this for you, your face shield/goggles/glasses can be used for this purpose as well. That is, SMU will provide eye protection for students who are required to wear it during clinical assignments when the clinical agency is unable to provide that eye protection for students.

If students or faculty are not being provided adequate PPE according to their specific agency guidelines, see the guidelines (PPE in the clinical environment) for actions to take.

## GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT CLINICAL EXPERIENCES (ROTATIONS, PRECEPTORSHIPS, RESIDENCIES, ETC.) DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC – ALL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

The COVID-19 pandemic period has presented multiple, complex challenges to all SMU employees responsible for providing the best possible education for our students, specifically related to ensuring that each student has the number, type, and quality of clinical experiences to meet the student learning outcomes. Our decisions are based on what the clinical agencies are making available for student education, adherence to the educational accreditation standards for each profession, and most importantly, maximizing student health and safety and mitigating risk.

We recognize that students across all programs are facing enormous, complex challenges as well, involving not only what is required to keep progressing though their program's academic and clinical curriculum, but also meeting personal/family responsibilities, maintaining financial stability, and finding the balance that allows for physical and mental wellness.

The goal of the University is to keep students progressing through their clinical curriculums whenever possible, always adhering to the actions/decisions of contracted clinical agencies related to student placements, and prioritizing student and faculty health and safety.

If you have questions related to plans for clinical rotations, they are best directed to your program faculty and administrators, but the following section provides general information for students.

### GENERAL SMU PRINCIPLES AND PROCESSES FOR CLINICAL PLACEMENTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Since March 2020, there has been variability across programs in the displacement of entire student cohorts from clinical agencies due to COVID-19 related factors, potentially disrupting the progression of students through their clinical curricula. The following guidelines allow the lead program administrators (LPA) of an academic program (dean, chair, or director) to make prudent judgements related to the clinical placement of students. Note: the LPA of each program is listed here.

- 1. The LPA of each academic program makes the decisions regarding student placements at clinical agencies, in consultation with and approval of their dean<sup>19</sup> and the provost, who is advised by the co-chairs of the COVID-19 Learning & Success- and Health, Safety & Operations- Committees.
- 2. Any learning opportunities or restriction on learning opportunities in patient/client care *settings* to which students are assigned, i.e., the type of unit within an agency, is determined by the LPA who takes into consideration several factors including, but not limited to:
  - a. what is approved by the clinical agency, as communicated by an agency administrator who oversees clinical education for the specific patient care unit.
  - b. what is offered by the clinical agency as an optional learning opportunity for students, as communicated by an agency administrator who oversees clinical education for the specific patient care unit.
  - c. accreditation standards of each academic program, as well as guidelines or position statements related to COVID-19 offered by specialty accreditation organizations or professional associations.
- 3. Guidelines for determining parameters for direct patient/client care by SMU students:
  - a. Restrictions on providing care for confirmed COVID positive individuals, or persons under investigation (PUI) placed on students by the clinical agency must be upheld.
  - b. Students are not to be assigned to direct care of patients known to be COVID positive requiring aerosolized respiratory treatments/interventions, airway management and intubation.
  - c. Decisions to allow a student provision of direct care to a person known to be COVID positive must be based on a thorough risk/benefit analysis, with the health and safety of the student as the top priority.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Chairs and Directors of prelicensure/undergraduate and graduate programs consult with the Dean, College of Nursing; Chairs of the physical therapy, occupational therapy, and physician assistant programs consult with the Dean, College of Health Sciences; the Dean, California School of Podiatric Medicine consults with the Provost.

- Students caring for COVID positive persons must have appropriate PPE available at all times and must be wearing appropriate PPE at all times when providing care see item 4, below.
- d. Students may care for a person who is considered a person under investigation (PUI), if the clinical agency allows such assignments.
- e. Students may care for post-COVID persons in acute care settings if allowed by the clinical agency. The specific time parameters for length of isolation of said persons is established by an agency's infection control/exposure management consultants
- 4. Provision of personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - a. Students must be provided with the types and quality of PPE equipment currently recommended for the clinical setting, and with the same frequency as healthcare professionals at the specific agency. In general, this PPE provision requirement is explicitly stated in the SMU/clinical agency contract.
  - b. Revised requirements for PPE are not uncommon during this pandemic period. Program administrators must be on the alert for any PPE mandate changes at each site, particularly noting if the agency will be supplying the newly required PPE.
  - c. If a clinical agency is not providing students with proper PPE, as expected, this should be reported to program administrators, who will follow up using proper communication channels.
  - d. On the occasions where the clinical agency is unable to provide required PPE for students, program administrators must bring this to the attention of SMU's COVID-19 Health, Safety & Operations (HS&O) Committee. The HS&O Committee will facilitate decisions required – as each situation dictates - related to the PPE supplies for students.
  - 5. Students are trained on the proper use of PPE as required by academic program requirements and the clinical agency.
  - 6. Students receive training around COVID-19 topics as required by the clinical agency.
  - 7. Students must meet and maintain 100% compliance with all pre-rotation requirements (immunization and health screening among other items) mandated by each clinical agency. This is a University requirement for continued enrollment in clinical courses. Each academic program has its mechanisms for ensuring regulatory compliance by students, which is supported by University-wide accountability checks.
    - a. Since February 2021, all SMU students are offered vaccination opportunities through the Sutter Health Vaccination Administration Program, with Tier 1A/B priority classification. Mechanisms are in place to assist any SMU student in accessing the COVID-19 vaccine should they choose to do so.
    - b. If completing COVID-19 vaccination is required in order to participate in a clinical rotation, there is an established process for students to document clearance for this particular requirement without compromising personally identifiable information or protected health information,
    - c. Students choosing not to receive a COVID vaccine should consult with their faculty/LPA to determine how this impacts their participation in a clinical rotation and how it may impact progression through a clinical curriculum.
  - 8. There are established and enforced SMU guidelines for COVID-19 screening of students and faculty, as well as reporting requirements for COVID symptoms/test results, and requirements to return to campus or clinical work.
    - a. See Guideline Sets 1 through 6 in this COVID-19 Compendium (Student and Faculty Editions) for student responsibilities related to screening, reporting, and clearance processes.
    - b. See Appendix B in the COVID-19 Compendium (Faculty Edition) for faculty and administrator responsibilities related to implementation of the SMU Guideline Sets mentioned in item a above.
  - 9. Students must comply with the daily screening procedures required by each clinical agency. If a student does not pass a screening, the aforementioned student health and safety guideline sets (item 9 above) provide guidance for actions to be taken for any given situation. Expectations for student and faculty adherence to clinical agency requirements are clearly articulated in the SMU Codes of Conduct, as are the consequences of non-adherence.
  - 10. To date (March 1, 2021), Samuel Merritt University is not requiring COVID-19 testing of any kind of students or employees.

11. Students must adhere to the policies and processes of clinical agencies related to **infection prevention** and control in healthcare settings, specifically during the COVID-19 pandemic. There are <u>CDC</u> <u>guidelines in this area</u> and each clinical agency has established policies which students and faculty must follow.

Of particular relevance to students while working at clinical settings is the need for strict adherence to safe physical distancing, face covering and other preventive measures **both on and off direct patient care units.** This includes, but is not limited to:

- Post-clinical conference locations within the clinical agency
- Staff lounge or break rooms within the clinical agency
- The cafeteria and other public eating areas within the clinical agency
- The lobby/entrance areas of the clinical agency
- Parking facilities/Street parking near the agency
- Community settings where peers (with or without faculty) gather for post-clinical social activity

### Support through the Academic & Instructional Innovation (A&II) Department

The A&II team is comprised of instructional designers, educational technologists, system administrators, and software developers whose primary responsibility is to assist faculty in the application of teaching best practices to their program curriculum, make their courses current, relevant, and efficient, and to help students get the most from their learning experience. Their goal is to assist faculty in the creation of fun, rewarding, and transformative teaching experiences. Most importantly, their focus is to help faculty succeed so that students will succeed.

See A&II's webpage section on Academic Technology Support for Students

Here are some key topics featured on A&II's student support page:

### Canvas Learning Management System

Most online learning activities take place in Canvas, SMU's Learning Management System.

- All students have access to Canvas for their courses, which can be accessed using their <u>SMU</u> single sign on.
- o Help with Canvas can be found in the extensive Canvas Guides.
- o 24/7 Canvas assistance for students via phone at 510.907.2555 option 3 or live chat.

### Additional Online Learning Tools

Some courses use additional online tools that are either integrated into Canvas, or are accessed independently, outside of Canvas. Faculty will provide links to training resources for tools that are outside of Canvas. Below are some tools that are integrated into Canvas and used in many courses:

- o Respondus Lockdown Browser and Monitor.
- Video assignments using Panopto.
- o Turnitin:
  - How to submit a Turnitin assignment.
  - o Interpreting a similarity report.

### • Supporting Online Learning Success:

All students are enrolled in a short, self-paced course in Canvas on How to Succeed as an Online Learner. (Canvas sign in required). This is strongly recommended, and most programs require its completion. Students can check with the program chair, dean, or administrator regarding required completion and due dates. While this course does not contribute to a student's GPA, it does mimic an actual course and as such includes assignments, quizzes, discussions, and other typical activities to help acclimate students to the online learning environment. Beyond technology, the course contains exercises to help students develop best practices of habit for online learning success.

### **Support through the Student Affairs Division**

- The <u>Academic Support team</u> under the Student Affairs Division has excellent support resources for all enrolled students at all campuses.
- The <u>Academic Support Resource Guide</u> is a Canvas site where you will find resources to support strong academic performance in all the disciplines of SMU programs.
- Coping with COVID-19 is a section in the Canvas site mentioned above that has powerful resources for Best Practices in Online Learning

### **Web Conferencing Platforms**

Several web conference platforms are used at SMU to deliver synchronous online learning experiences.

**Cisco WebEx** is the official platform of Samuel Merritt University. Every student and employee has a WebEx account, accessed with your single sign on login information. The following information is an excerpt from the Academic Support Resource Guide referenced on the previous page.

- How do I access Webex? (Links to an external site.)
  - To join a specific meeting, use the URL shared with you or the Join button in the invite sent to you.
  - Webex can also be accessed through the MySMU catalog. Use your SMU email and password to login.
- How do I participate in a Webex meeting? (Links to an external site.)
- Quick Guide on Hosting a Webex Meeting
- Webex Attendee Guide (Links to an external site.)
- Just-in-time Webex Helpers (Audio) (Links to an external site.)
- For further help with Webex, contact <u>Webex Support (Links to an external site.)</u> or the <u>IT Service</u> Desk (Links to an external site.).

**Canvas Conferences, aka Big Blue Button**, is a feature built into each Canvas course. The following information is an excerpt from the Academic Support Resource Guide referenced on the previous page.

- How do I use Canvas Conferences in a course as a student? (Links to an external site.)
- How do I create a Canvas Conference in a student group? (Links to an external site.)
- How do I use the Canvas Conferences interface as a participant? (Links to an external site.)
  - Note: The Safari browser doesn't support screen sharing or returning from breakout rooms with audio.

**Zoom** is a web conferencing platform also available to the SMU community. At this time (March 2021), faculty and staff have Zoom accounts through SMU. Faculty and staff may choose to conduct virtual sessions for their courses or student support sessions via Zoom. Signing into these sessions entails the use of the single sign on SMU credentials. Student Zoom accounts through SMU is anticipated in the near future — communication will be sent to students and faculty when this feature is made available. The following information is an excerpt from the Academic Support Resource Guide referenced on the previous page — it provides helpful hints about some Zoom basics.

- Zoom Set Up and Basics
   The PowerPoint link above (created by SMU Peer Tutor Katarina Yabut) provides a general overview of how to download and use Zoom to connect remotely for one-on-one meetings or group study sessions.
- How to Join a Zoom Meeting
- How to Join Zoom Audio by Phone

**Microsoft Teams** (aka Teams) is a workspace for real-time collaboration and communication, meetings, file and app sharing, and more. Teams is available for free for all faculty, staff and students as part of the Office365 Suite. Information on how to get started using Teams and Training Resources can be found here.

### Student Support from the Information Technology (IT) Department

Information Technology Services (ITS) provides technology solutions to the Samuel Merritt University community that facilitate learning and enhance the classroom experience. The New Student Welcome Video describes general services, and does focus on on-campus services—however, the ITS team offers robust technology support for students (in collaboration with staff in the Student Affairs Division) during this COVID-19 period, when the vast majority of courses are being taught online.

SMU Technology Support Services webpage

### RESOURCES FOR STUDENT SUPPORT

The 2020 Covid-19 pandemic period has presented multiple, complex challenges to all SMU Students as well. The initial shift to classes at home added new challenges and stresses to students' lives; now that we are preparing for a return to campus for lab-based activities, the stresses change and potentially increase. The University, through Student Affairs, has a number of support resources available to support students during this time.

### **Health and Wellness Support**

There are a number of opportunities to support your physical and emotional wellbeing:

- SHAC psychologists are available to conduct Telehealth video or audio sessions. Students MUST be
  physically located in the state of California to receive these services. You will need a computer or mobile
  phone for this option. You can schedule a TeleHealth counseling appointment by calling SHAC
  510.879.9288.
- SMU contracts with <u>Sutter Employee Assistance Program (EAP)</u> to provide students up to 10 counseling sessions per calendar year with a licensed mental health counselor free of charge. Sutter EAP will conduct TeleHealth sessions. Schedule an appointment through Sutter EAP by calling 800.477.2258. When calling, identify yourself as an SMU student and a Sutter EAP intake specialist will help you to find a licensed mental health provider in your community.
- SMU students should also all have private health insurance and most plans cover mental health services. You can contact your individual insurance providers to learn more.
- The <u>BeWell SMU Canvas site</u> supports the health and well-being of the SMU Community

### **Wellness Activities**

- There are weekly virtual activities led by faculty, staff and students to support and enhance your wellness. Check your email for your weekly newsletter from the BeWell group.
- Online Events for Kids While Parents Work From Home--Struggling to entertain your children while trying to work from home especially now that it's summer vacation? Eventbrite offers online classes and activities to help keep kids busy. There's a wide range of interactive classes that teach art, coding, comedy, and fitness online.
- Bootcamp/HIIT/Pilates/Yoga Classes—each week there are different classes available for you. The weekly schedule can be accessed here.
- Mindfulness and other Wellness Resources: the BeWell page has other resources to support your wellbeing.

### **Financial Support**

The Financial Aid office has a number of financial resources available to support students. SMU has offered emergency scholarships for the last few years. We are fortunate to have alumni and staff that donate to the emergency fund. We immediately sent out notices to all students, faculty and staff about the availability of these funds. The scholarships that we are currently offering students are:

- Emergency scholarships for unexpected costs that impede your ability to be successful as a student. This includes funds to help with temporary housing, food, home repairs, car repairs that will assist a student getting to a job or clinical site, out of pocket medical expenses, child care etc. We are also helping students who cannot work remotely that were working on campus. We don't have enough money to pay for all of these expenses for every student every month but can help on a case by case basis with some funds in most cases.
- Technology assistance for helping students transition to online. We are repairing or replacing laptops and funding internet access options as needed. Also, we are providing assistance for students who need accommodations as determined by the Disabilities office
- Scholarship funds to assist displaced students from preceptor and clinical sites that prevent or delay graduation.
- Please click the link if you want to apply for emergency support.

If you have any other support needs not listed her, or wish to speak with someone about student support resources, please contact Craig Elliott, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs,

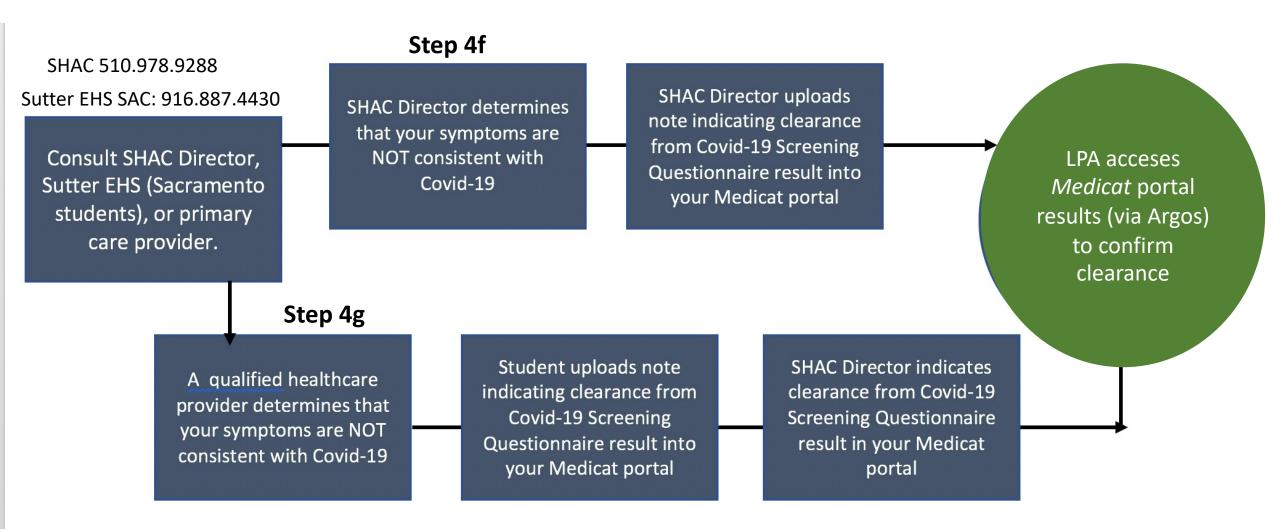
at celliott@samuelmerritt.edu or 510-879-9252.

## APPENDIX A: GRAPHIC SUMMARIES OF STUDENT AND FACULTY GUIDELINES FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY (GUIDELINE SETS 1 THROUGH 6)

Appendix A-1	Guideline Set 1: Screening Prior to Coming to Campus
Appendix A-2	How to document clearance after receiving "not eligible" on the COVID Screening Questionnaire (and student sought to make sure the symptoms are not COVID-related)
Appendix A-3	Guideline Set 2: If You Are Symptomatic and Test Negative or Do Not Get Tested
Appendix A-4	How to document clearance to return to campus/clinical after being symptomatic for COVID-19
Appendix A-5	Guideline Set 3: If You Are Symptomatic and Test Positive, or Are Diagnosed With COVID-19 Without Being Tested (Presumptive Positive)
Appendix A-6	How to document clearance to return to campus/clinical after being symptomatic for COVID-19 and testing positive, or diagnosed with COVID-19 (presumptive positive)
Appendix A-7	Guideline Set 4: If You Test Positive and Are Asymptomatic
Appendix A-8	How to document clearance to return to campus/clinical after testing positive for COVID-19 and are ASYMPTOMATIC
Appendix A-9	Guideline Set 5: You are informed that you have been exposed to a person who MAY HAVE COVID-19 (The person is awaiting test results/diagnosis)
Appendix A-10	How to document clearance to return to campus/clinical after exposure to a person under investigation
Appendix A-11	Guideline Set 6: You are informed that you have been exposed to a person who has confirmed positive test results for COVID-19
Appendix A-12	How to document clearance to return to campus/clinical after exposure to a confirmed positive COVID-19 individual

#### **Appendix A-1** • Guideline Set 1: Screening Prior to Coming to Campus Before coming to campus: Take COVID Screening Questionnaire Result: "Not Eligible" Result: "Not Eligible" Result: "Not Eligible" due Result: "Eligible" due to fever ≥ 100 F Not eligible due to unprotected to 1 or more YES on Be prepared to show (38.7 C) and/or due to user contact with COVID + questionnaire survey results for respiratory or other error individual and you want to make current day symptoms sure it is not COVIDrelated Retake x 1 (Be prepared for follow up from Stay home Stay home administrator) Notify faculty Notify faculty Stay home Notify faculty Result: "Eligible" Come to campus Be prepared to Follow Complete screening **Follow** Follow instructions show survey instructions in process at building instructions in in Guideline Set 1, results for current Guideline Set 2 entry (temp, verbal Guideline Set 5 Steps 4d - g day symptom check)

**Appendix A-2 ●** How to document clearance after receiving "not eligible" on the COVID Screening Questionnaire (and student sought to make sure the symptoms are not COVID-related)



### **Appendix A-3** • Guideline Set 2: If You Are Symptomatic and Test Negative or Do Not Get Tested

You have a fever (≥100F or 38.7C) and/or any other COVID-related symptom(s)

1

Go home or stay home

Follow the CDC guidelines "What To Do If You are Sick"

2

Self quarantine & Self monitor Focus on your health!

If you may have been exposed to a COVID+ person, contact your healthcare provider

If you develop emergency warning signs, seek emergency medical help

3

You are required report your symptomatic state to your LPA. Follow CDC guidelines regarding notifying close contacts.

Notify your faculty that you are sick – you have the option to provide more details. Establish a plan to communicate regularly while you are sick. regarding adjustments in course or clinical work.

There is no need to report your symptoms to the SHAC if your symptoms have been present for ≤ 72 hrs. If you require guidance as to what to do or when/what to report, call SHAC (510-978-9288)

Reach out to <u>Student Services</u> to be connected to someone who can help you with any challenges you are facing

## When can you return to campus or a clinical after you have been symptomatic for COVID-19?

**If you did not get tested** for COVID-19, these criteria must be met:

- It has been at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared and
- at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication and
- symptoms have improved
- You are cleared by the SHAC Director

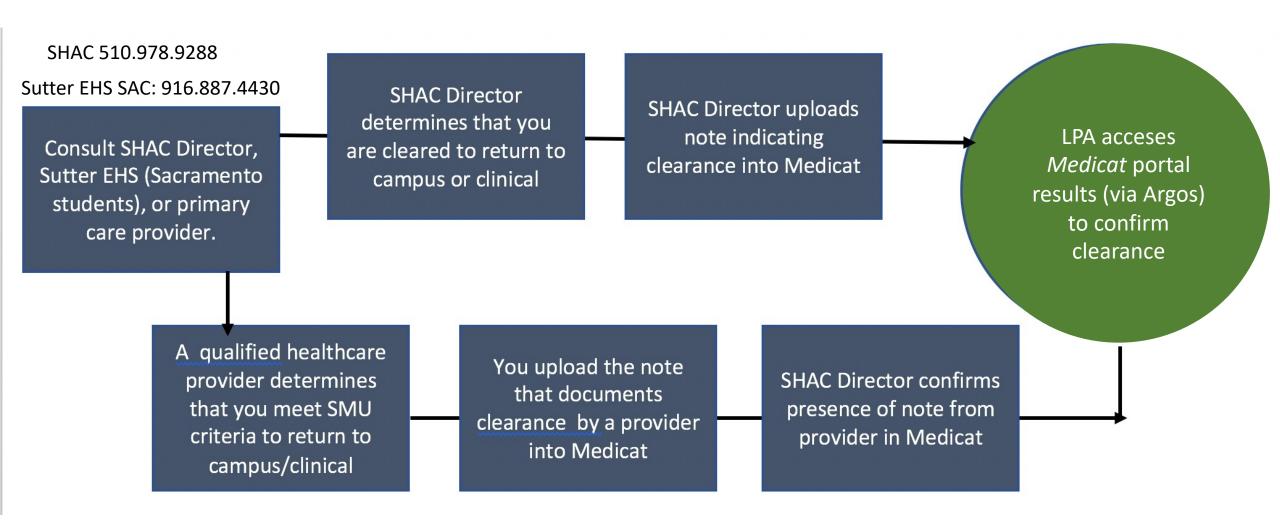
The first 3 criteria are based on CDC guidelines found in <u>"When You Can Be</u> Around Others After You Had or Likely Had Covid 19 "

### **If you tested negative** for COVID-19, this criterion must be met:

- Your symptoms have been resolved for > 48 hours (this time parameter) will allow you to pass the COVID screening questionnaire)
- You are cleared by the SHAC Director

This criterion is consistent with Sutter Health's Covid-19 Updated Return to Work Protocol for Symptomatic Employees (08/31/20)

### **Appendix A-4** • How to document clearance to return to campus/clinical after being symptomatic for COVID-19



## **Appendix A-5** ● Guideline Set 3: If You Are Symptomatic and Test Positive, or Are Diagnosed With COVID-19 Without Being Tested (Presumptive Positive)

You are symptomatic and test positive, or are diagnosed with COVID-19 (presumptive positive)

1

Stay home

Follow the CDC guidelines "What To Do If You are Sick"

2

Self quarantine & Self monitor Consult your healthcare provide as needed

If you develop emergency warning signs, seek emergency medical help 3

You are required to report your status to the SHAC Director (510.879.9288) and your Lead Program Administrator (LPA).

Notify your faculty that you are ill — you have the option to provide more details about your illness. Establish a plan to communicate regularly with faculty while you are sick.

Establish a plan with faculty regarding adjustments in coursework (academic or clinical). Your health is the main priority.

Reach out to <u>Student Services</u> to be connected to someone who can help you with any challenges you are facing.

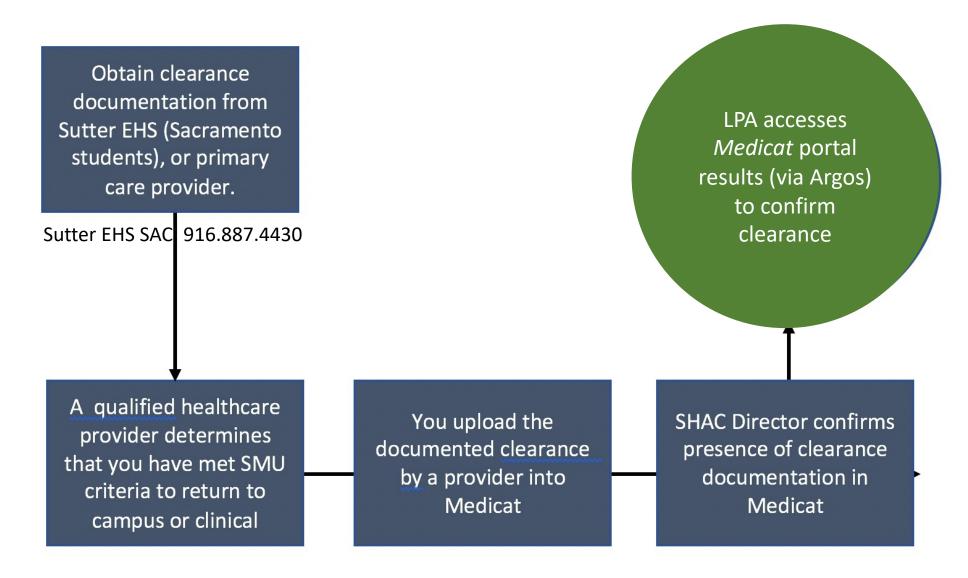
When can you return to campus or a clinical after you have been symptomatic and test positive or are presumed to be positive?

### All following criteria must be met:

- 10 calendar days or more since the onset of symptoms
- Symptom resolution:
  - Breathing problems and/or diarrhea (if applicable)
  - 1 day (24-hrs) have passed since resolution of fever (below 100.0) without the use of fever-reducing medications
  - Cough should be improved but lingering cough may persist
- If the criteria above are met, there is no requirement to test negative

This criteria is consistent with Sutter Health's COVID-19 Updated Return to Work Protocol for Symptomatic Employees (updated 08/31/20)

## **Appendix A-6 ●** How to document clearance to return to campus/clinical after being symptomatic for COVID-19 and testing positive, or diagnosed with COVID-19 (presumptive positive)



### **Appendix A-7** • Guideline Set 4: If You Test Positive and Are Asymptomatic

You are ASYMPTOMATIC and test positive with COVID-19

When can you return to campus or a clinical after you have tested positive and have been asymptomatic?

1

Go home or stay home

Follow the CDC guidelines Prevent Getting Sick

Self quarantine & Self monitor Take care of yourself and those around you

> If you develop symptoms, follow Guideline Set 3

3

You are required to report your status to the SHAC Director (510.879.9288) and your Lead Program Administrator (LPA).

Notify your faculty that you will be absent due to a health-related matter – you have the option of providing more details to the faculty. Establish a plan to communicate regularly while you are quarantined at home.

Reach out to <u>Student Services</u> to be connected to someone who can help you with any challenges you are facing.

### The following criteria must be met:

- Continuous absence of symptoms 10 days after testing
- If you develop symptoms after testing positive, follow the instructions in Guidelines Set 3 (Appendix A-5) return to campus/clinical.

This criteria aligns with CDC guidelines found under When you Can Be Around Others After You Had or Likely Had Covid 19

## **Appendix A-8 ●** How to document clearance to return to campus/clinical after testing positive for COVID-19 and are ASYMPTOMATIC

Obtain clearance documentation from Sutter EHS (Sacramento students), or primary care provider.

Sutter EHS SAC: 916.887.4430

A qualified healthcare provider determines that you have met SMU criteria to return to campus or clinical

You upload the documented clearance by a provider into your Medicat portal

SHAC Director confirms presence of clearance provider in your Medicat portal LPA accesses

Medicat portal
results (via Argos)
to confirm
clearance

## Appendix A-9 • Guideline Set 5: You are informed that you have been exposed to a person who may have COVID-19. The person is awaiting test results/diagnosis

You are informed that you have been exposed to a person who has met criteria for quarantine and is awaiting the results of a diagnostic virus test.

When can you return to campus or a clinical after you have been exposed to a person under investigation?

- Ask questions from the informer so that you can have as many details as possible to assist with contact tracing.
- Follow guidance from your LPA
- If you were given instructions by an official contact tracer or public health official, notify your LPA
- If you develop symptoms, follow Guideline Set 2 or 3

There is no requirement to report your status to SHAC at this time but If you require guidance as to what to do, call SHAC (510-978-9288)

3

Your LPA will consult with COVID-19 Committee members designated to determine who meets quarantine criteria in this situation.

- People who are post COVID and who meet certain criteria may be exempt from quarantine (see guidelines).
- People who have been fully vaccinated and who meet certain criteria may be exempt from quarantine (see guidelines).

- If the person who has been tested is confirmed as positive for COVID-19 and you remain asymptomatic follow Step 7–9 in Guideline
   Your LPA will confirm this next step with you.
- If the person who has been tested receives a negative test result, your LPA will confirm that you are cleared to return to campus or clinical, assuming you have maintained quarantine properly and are asymptomatic.

**Appendix A-10 ●** How to document clearance to return to campus/clinical after being exposed to a person who may have COVID-19 (a person under investigation, PUI)

The PUI receives a negative test result, and your LPA confirms that:

- 1) You have maintained quarantine as instructed, and
- 2) You remain asymptomatic

or

The PUI receives a positive test result. You will need to follow Guideline 6, including criteria for clearance to return to campus/clinical.

Your LPA confirms via Argos documentation that the PUI is cleared to return to campus/clinical

LPA confirms clearance directly with student

## Appendix A-11 • Guideline Set 6: You are informed that you have been exposed to a person who has confirmed positive test results for COVID-19

You are informed that you have been exposed to a person with confirmed positive test results for COVID-19 (you are either symptomatic or asymptomatic)

1

Ask questions from the informer so that you can have as many details as possible to assist with contact tracing.

Immediately notifiy your LPA. Let them know if a contact tracer or other public health official has give you instructions..

There is no requirement to report your status to SHAC at this time but If you require guidance as to what to do, call SHAC (510-978-9288).

2

# ASYMPTOMATIC WHEN INFORMED & EXPOSURE OCCURRED IN A PATIENT CARE SETTING:

Follow this CDC guidance for Health
Care Personnel Who Were Exposed to a
COVID-19 positive individual

# ASYMPTOMATIC WHEN INFORMED & EXPOSURE OCCURRED IN A NON-PATIENT CARE SETTING

Follow this <u>CDC Public Health Guidance</u> for Community-Related Exposure

### SYMPTOMATIC WHEN INFORMED

Follow SMU Guideline Set 2 or 3, whichever is most appropriate

If you are in this situation, it is highly recommended that you be tested for COVID-19. Testing is free in California for whoever needs it.

Find a testing site

4

When can you return to campus or a clinical after you have been exposed to a person with confirmed positive test results for COVID-19?

- If you have been symptomatic:
  - follow Guideline Set 2 or 3
- If you have been asymptomatic, it will depend on if you were tested and what your results are:
  - Guideline Set 4 if you are positive
  - If you are negative or choose not to get tested, it will depend on what precautionary measures were established for your specific situation

41

## Appendix A-12 • How to document clearance to return to campus/clinical after exposure to a confirmed positive COVID-19 individual

Clearance criteria in this situation is highly individualized. Follow guidance of program faculty/administrator

If you do have a negative test result, upload documentation into Medicat

If you are required to submit a form of clearance document, upload into Medicat

SHAC Director confirms
presence of clearance
provider in your
Medicat portal

LPA accesses

Medicat portal
results (via Argos)
to confirm
clearance

## APPENDIX B: CDC CORONAVIRUS SELF CHECKER - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is the <u>COVID-19 self-checker?</u>

The COVID-19 self-checker is a tool that has been created by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The self-checker asks users a series of questions about symptoms they are experiencing, and compares those symptoms to a list of documented COVID-19 virus symptoms. At the conclusion of a self-checker session, the platform will recommend next steps to the user, for instance calling your healthcare provider or self-monitoring symptoms.

The tool does not replace a clinical assessment. If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, cough, fatigue, or shortness of breath, call your primary care provider, or other healthcare provider for further evaluation.

### Will anyone at SMU see my response to the COVID-19 self-checker?

The information you share with the self-checker is anonymous and encrypted. It will not be shared with any person at SMU.

## The self-checker told me to stay home and monitor my symptoms, but I am still concerned. What should I do?

The self-checker is designed to help you make decisions about seeking appropriate medical care. It does not replace the judgment of healthcare professionals or a clinical exam. If you have concerns about symptoms you are experiencing, contact:

- SMU Student Health and Counseling (SHAC), at 510.879,9288 to be connected to the Director
- Sutter Employee Health Services (916-887-4430, for students at the Sacramento campus)
- Your primary care provider

### Who will see the information that I share with the COVID-19 self-checker?

The information you share with the self-checker is encrypted. The CDC owns and maintains the tool and does not share any of your personal information with any other entity.

FAQs adapted from CDC Self-Checker FAQs, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (retrieved July 25, 2020)