

Dear NMC Students,

As August comes to a close and the fall semester is now in full swing—I want to commend you for your efforts in abiding with the NMC COVID procedures, particularly performing a daily health screening, not attending class or clinical if sick, physical distancing where you can and wearing your face coverings. While the first few weeks have gone well, we must stay attentive to these precautions.

This weekend, while news spread about other college campuses and their rising COVID infections, NMC's reported symptomatic or positive cases has remained low. NMC's Self-Disclosure policy requires disclosure if you have tested positive for COVID-19 or been diagnosed with and are being treated for COVID-19. To maintain an open campus, it is critical that cases continue to be reported.

NMC is unique in that not only are the COVID policies and procedures in place to keep our campus safe, but we have an obligation to keep our clinical partners and patients safe. As future caregivers, your first obligation to your patients is to do no harm. Choosing to attend clinical sick or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms could be a deadly consequence to those patients. Please communicate with your clinical instructor and faculty if you are sick or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

Thank you to those that have remained home if sick or awaiting COVID-19 test results and those that reported symptoms or positive tests and reached out to campus health for immediate guidance. Caring counts in our efforts to mitigate COVID spread and keep campus open and these folks truly exemplify what it means to care for the greater good.

If you've had a high-risk COVID-19 exposure, are sick, experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, awaiting test results, required to quarantine, or test positive for COVID-19, NMC has support services to help you. More than ever, our faculty, clinical instructors and OSE staff understand the pressures and fears may come with the reality of being sick, missing time in class or clinical and not being able to work. They are prepared to provide guidance and keep you on track. If you are experiencing any of the above, please communicate with them immediately. Our collective success as a campus community depends on the care we have for each other.

Take care and be well NMC,

Deb Carlson

Deb Carlson
President/CEO
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