



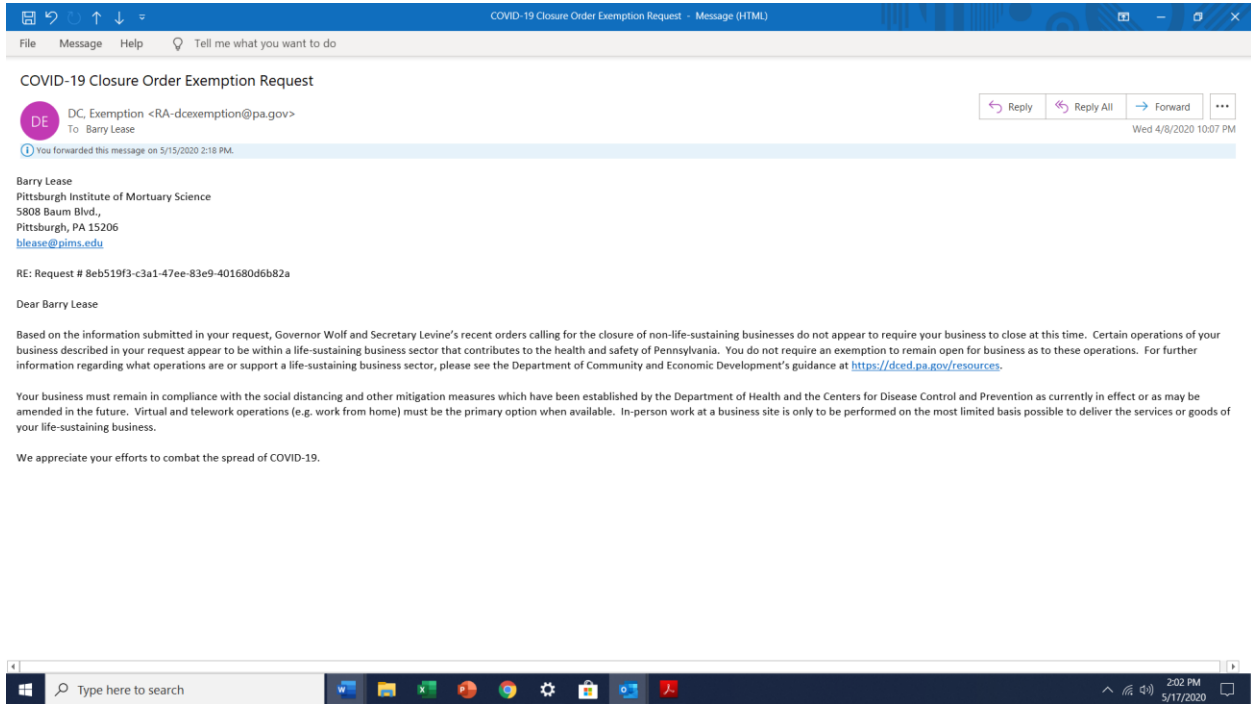
Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science
www.pims.edu

4/20/20--COVID-19 STUDENT UPDATE

EXEMPTION AND APPROVAL

Dear students:

In a policy update on April 8, 2020, the Institute advised all that the PA Department of Community and Economic Development had defined operations of the Institute as within the “life sustaining sector.” Please see this email response:



While this was a first step towards returning to some limited operational instruction, we took this exemption to our PA Department of Education—Private License Schools Board Administrator to ask for approval for LIMITED CAMPUS INSTRUCTION SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO PROFESSIONAL HANDS-ON TRAINING--RESTORATIVE ART AND EMBALMING. The response provided is below:



Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science
www.pims.edu

RE: [External] Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science Plans

Piper, Jenny <jenpiper@pa.gov>
To: Barry Lease

Mon 4/20/2020 2:39 PM

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From: Piper, Jenny <jenpiper@pa.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 1:28 PM
To: Barry Lease <blease@pims.edu>
Subject: RE: [External] Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science Plans

Good afternoon Mr. Lease.

Thank you again for reaching out and keeping me informed of your progress. I am glad you were able to secure a waiver from the State but also glad to hear of your plan to only operate in person on a limited and only for the absolute needed amount of time/instruction.

You are absolutely doing what's best for your school, students and community and commend you for that and absolutely approve of your plan!

I have updated my tracking information to reflect your latest plan. I am confident newer communications will be coming in the coming days if not hours as Gov. Wolf just held a press conference this afternoon. Please know any communications that will come to you at this time don't necessarily pertain to you due to the nature of your school and the waiver you have received and will serve merely as updated communications for you.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if anything changes on your end or if you have any questions about the communications that I expect to come.

Continue to stay safe and healthy!
Jenny

From: Barry Lease <blease@pims.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 12:48 PM
To: Piper, Jenny <jenpiper@pa.gov>
Subject: RE: [External] Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science Plans
Importance: High

We believe these communications from the DCED and the PA DOE_PLS enable us to provide limited small group instructions, as clearly stated, for clinical applications such as embalming, restorative art, or funeral service skills practicum—therefore, this communication replaces the policy from March 18, 2020. To that end, all requirements earned during the lockdown will now be considered.

Finally, please note this is an evolving situation, therefore, the policy shared on March 18, 2020 regarding advisement from the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE) clinical and practicum requirements will be maintained if something would change. Accordingly, PIMS will develop a formal institutional policy, in sync with ABFSE standards and PA state regulations for contact hours, as it applies to students getting close to graduation who may not be able to fulfill all of these experiential learning requirements.

Sincerely,

Barry T. Lease

Dr. Barry T. Lease
Program Director