



## Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science

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### 7/2/20—COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN UPDATE: RETURN TO IN PERSON INSTRUCTION AND MANDATORY MASKING

Please be advised that as we return to limited in-person instruction next week, while the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, it is necessary to stay informed, and in some cases, reinforce specific policies. This update will remind students and school employees about changes to the safety plan as well as the protocols in place for reporting to and continuing to stay in the building each day. It will also provide guidelines for special situations in which PIMS administration should be advised out of an abundance of caution.

To enter and remain in the building each day for work or class, please note the following protocols:

- As per the directive of the Pennsylvania Governor on July 1, 2020, MASKS ARE MANDATORY. You will not gain access to the building without a mask. If you do not have a mask, we will offer you a mask that **MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES**. If you are observed not wearing your mask, you will be asked to go home—this policy point is inflexible as mask wearing is a mandate that has been strongly recommended to help stop the spread of the virus.
- Individuals must allow for a wellness check which includes recording of temporal temperature and general inquiry about health status. If a temperature is at or above 100.0°F, this is defined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), for the purpose of this guidance, as a fever. Such individuals will not be admitted to the building for the day and advised to contact their health care provider. Additionally, if a person reports feeling “feverish” and registers a low-grade fever, he/she may not be admitted to the building for the day. The CDC recommends that because fever conditions may be intermittent due to the other situations, a person may be admitted on a subsequent day if temperature returns to normal.
- Hand washing and sanitation is expected. Individuals are also expected to maintain the safety of their own personal space while respecting the right for others to have safe personal space.
- Follow all instructional signage in the building issued for your safety and note that communal areas of the building are closed so individuals are asked to break at their own space in the classroom/building or go outside.
- Always maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet between two individuals and avoid physical contact.
- Adhere to the directional signage to guide you through the building especially for going up and down the stairs.
- Only one person may use the restroom at a time and the door should be locked while in use.
- Only one person should access the elevator at a time.
- If these basic protocols are not strictly adhered to by student and school employees, individuals may be asked to leave the building.

Out of an abundance of caution, any student or school employee should notify the COVID-19 Pandemic Officer, Dean Burns (or Dr. Lease if Dean Burns is unavailable) of the following situations:

- If an individual has travelled outside of the region.
- If a person reports feeling “feverish” or manifests any other symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (see CDC symptom checker: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>), he/she should not come to school and should consider talking to his/her health care provider and/or getting tested for COVID-19.
- If an individual has been in contact with someone diagnosed with or manifesting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (see symptom checker).

In the instances listed above, an individual may be advised to quarantine for a period of 14 days and/or get tested for COVID-19 out of an abundance of caution. If tested, an individual may return with TWO negative test results documented to the COVID-19 Pandemic Officer. If a student is quarantined for 14 days, this will not be a disqualifying event from the program HOWEVER the student will need to be in touch with the instructor and the Dean to make a plan to stay connected to the class using remote strategies.

Finally, in the situation of a student or school employee suspected of either being exposed to a known COVID-19 or actually diagnosed with COVID-19, the Institute will take appropriate actions by contacting the Allegheny County Health Department to assist with contact tracing and advisement. The Institute will follow the prescribed procedures from the Allegheny County Health Department for reopening. During such time that sanitation and deep cleaning protocols may need to be enacted, students on campus may be switched to Alternative Delivery.

Due to the evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, further advisement will occur as needed. For access to the entire PIMS COVID-19 SAFETY AND HEALTH PLAN please link to: [https://pims.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/6\\_5\\_20-pims-covid-health-and-safety-plan-2.pdf](https://pims.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/6_5_20-pims-covid-health-and-safety-plan-2.pdf). You will be asked to sign an acknowledgement that you have read and understand the entire safety and health plan and this policy update upon your return.