



COVID-19 ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY WAIVER EXPIRATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

September 16, 2020

The Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science (PIMS) is focused on the safety and health of all students, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. While we anticipate your arrival on campus for in-person instruction, the pandemic continues to be an evolving situation.

It should be noted that students who choose to attend campus, are expected to be in-person for instruction. The fact is the Institute has deployed resources and strictly adhered to the guidelines set forth by the PA Department of Health and Center for Disease Control related to the safe reopening of schools for in-person instruction. Please see the following link for our approved COVID-19 Safety and Health Plan: https://pims.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/pims-covid-health-and-safety-plan-updated-8_2_20.pdf.

However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science was granted an educational waiver by the Pennsylvania Department of Education—Private License Schools Board Memorandum #81, which states:

The Board is providing approval to schools which temporarily stop offering ground-based classes in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, as well as to schools who have a student or students become quarantined and miss class due to COVID-19, to use alternate delivery methods to accommodate students on a temporary basis through June 30, 2020, without going through the regular approval process.

Alternative Delivery (AD) employs virtual technology in a **synchronous** manner to deliver coursework, exams, and class lectures; it is specifically designed for displaced campus students during the pandemic as indicated above. While the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, PIMS is approved to maintain AD instruction, however, approval for this mode of delivery is set to expire on **December 31, 2020**.

Subsequently, on January 1, 2021, if students are using AD for their classwork, such students will be required to return to the campus for in-person instruction as per the expiration of Memo #81. All campus students should be advised that the PIMS Fall 2020 term does not expire until January 22, 2021, therefore a return to in-person instruction, all things being equal for this term, is mandatory.

Because the pandemic is an evolving situation if further updates are provided by the State, students will be informed. The intent of this waiver sets clear expectations and asks student to acknowledge in writing their understanding and acknowledgement of the need to return to in-person instruction, all things being equal at the end of the year, during this Fall 2020 term.