June 19, 2020

Dear Campus Community,

After diligently working alongside our clinical partners to ensure the safety of our students, faculty, and staff, Mercy College of Health Sciences is excited to announce that students may begin returning to clinical settings on July 6, 2020.

As safety remains our number one priority, it is important to recognize how we are working alongside our clinical partners to ensure everyone’s safety during this time:

- Students will not provide direct care to confirmed COVID-19 patients or any patient under investigation.
- Each clinical site may have varying PPE requirements, which will be shared with students by their instructor prior to being assigned a clinical rotation.
- Due to limited PPE supplies, students are responsible for providing any PPE required by a clinical site if the clinical site will not be providing it to students.
- At a minimum, all students are required to don a self-provided face mask. Homemade face masks and other cloth masks are permissible. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with CDC guidelines for the cleaning of multi-use face coverings.
- If your course is returning to a clinical site your instructors will provide you with greater details and instructions in the coming days. We will be prioritizing students who are closest to completing their studies until our entire affiliate network is accepting students.
- All clinicals and labs will be virtual after Thanksgiving.

Mercy College will continue to utilize virtual, as well as on campus, simulation labs, to supplement instruction wherever possible, while maintaining the standards outlined by our numerous accrediting bodies. We remain dedicated to upholding our commitment and legacy to ensuring students receive a high-quality education. We look forward to welcoming students back to their numerous clinical sites in a safe manner.

Nancy Kertz, PhD, FNP-BC
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs