

Student Clinical Rotations at HealthPartners

HealthPartners is committed to maintaining a resilient education system that provides a rich training experience for all learners to contribute to the care of patients and the community. Through partnerships with schools, preceptors, and departmental leaders and educators, HealthPartners supports clinical training for students to ensure high-quality clinical learning experiences.

Approach

HealthPartners would like to have students continue to participate in patient clinical experiences this winter/spring semester as they have this past semester. This includes caring for all patients **except** patients being evaluated for COVID and for patients undergoing aerosol generating procedures. There may be **some student experiences** where we have the capacity to provide N95 respirators and fit testing that will allow students to engage with these patients. Each facility at HealthPartners is prioritizing the approach to student rotations that best supports the pandemic surge.

COVID 19 and Student Clinical Rotation History

With the onset of the pandemic in March of 2020, all student clinical rotations were paused to allow front line caregivers and preceptors the time and resources needed to adjust to caring for patients affected by COVID 19. For several months after the first wave of the virus, our clinicians and leaders learned new ways to safely care for these patients while preserving personal protective equipment.

Gradual resumption of student clinical rotations started at the end of June based on departmental readiness. It is clear that this gap in clinical experiences put stress on our school partners and students in gaining the necessary experience and skills needed for their program requirements and graduation.

Although it is our intent to provide a comprehensive experience for all students that would ideally include caring for COVID positive patients we need to be mindful of maintaining an adequate supply of PPE. **If we are able to accommodate some of your students to care for patients in this capacity we will reach out to you for more details.** For this winter/spring semester we are creating a process for fit testing students within our system. As we consider the ongoing needs of student safety and access to quality learning experiences we will need to partner on future fit testing needs.

Response Requested

- Does your school program/s support this approach to having students care for COVID positive patients if selected by clinical site?
- Do you currently have capacity to provide fit testing for students for the N95s listed in the attached HP guide?

| School Partner | Student Type/Program | Location of Rotations |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | |
| Support for approach | Capacity to Fit Test | |
| | | |

Please send responses to michelle.t.noltmier@healthpartners.com