



## Mayo Clinic COVID-19 Nursing Student Clinical Memo

January 20, 2021

Please note this is an update to the COVID-19 Pandemic July 28 memo. We are providing updates related to student clinical experiences and expectations at Mayo Clinic. All nursing students and faculty attending clinical experiences within the Mayo Clinic Midwest will be expected to abide by the following safety measures. Our goal is for continued safe and excellent learning for your students.

### Same Information:

- Everyone must wear a mask covering mouth and nose at all times when on campus. Clean, washable fabric masks are acceptable. Avoid offensive patterns in fabric or shape of mask.
- Avoid bringing backpacks onto campus. Limiting non-essential personal items is a safety precaution.
- When students arrive to the clinical unit, they should don a clean, school provided medical grade mask. If the original mask becomes soiled during the shift, they will be given a clean mask replacement by either attending faculty or the unit staff.
- Student personal protective eyewear varies by site and clinical experience. Please direct your instructor to verify eye wear requirements with the unit when they ask after the fit testing requirement. Students should clean, safely store, and reuse their protective eyewear.
  - CDC information on eyewear: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/eye/eye-infectious.html>
- Avoid group gatherings (examples include: Epic training, orientation, pre and post conferences, etc).
- Practice social distancing at all times (including elevators, libraries, lunch breaks, or while on mass transit).
- Wash hands frequently and participate in disinfection of the environment as a member of the healthcare team.
- Student badge access varies by site and clinical experience. If your students have badge access to the site, enter the premises through the employee entrance. We are expecting that the students will have self-screened prior to arrival, same as our employees. If students do not have site badge access, students are expected to enter through the main door and queue to be screened.
- At this time, students are not allowed to care for positive or suspected COVID-19 patients or having them in high risk situations. Certain areas such as the MICU and EDs may not be accepting students.
- Students observing in aerosol generating procedures areas MUST have a fit tested N95 to be an observer. Please note: beards impede the efficacy of the N95, and students with beards are prohibited from these areas. We are encouraging all nursing students to be fit tested on their campuses for an N95 mask, which they can bring to clinical as a piece of personal protective equipment. We do not have the capacity to fit test nursing students at this time in the Midwest.

### Updated Information:

- Do not come to campus if you have a temperature or are experiencing other COVID related symptoms. Schools are responsible to ensure that nursing students are abiding to health monitoring expectations. Students should call Occupational Health (833-558-0757, available 24/7) if they have any symptoms.

- Fit testing requirements for each unit adapts based upon the patient populations. As a result, the fit testing requirements are always changing. When faculty sends the required introductory email to the unit nurse leaders, please make sure they inquire the specific unit's current fit testing requirements. Your faculty will have the best information when they communicate with unit nurse leaders regularly and often. Nurse faculty should review the Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) site accessible while on Mayo Clinic campuses to stay current with Aerosol-generating procedures and changes in N-95 requirements.
- COVID-19 Vaccinations: Mayo Clinic anticipates providing vaccinations to nursing faculty and students as it becomes available. Each state provides the vaccine doses regionally, so we anticipate regional differences in administration timelines based on vaccine availability. We will provide more information about vaccination processes for students as it becomes available.

**Resources: (links available when on a Mayo Clinic Campus)**

**Occupational Health Phone Number: 833-558-0757 (available 24/7)**

COVID-19 Information Center: <http://intranet.mayo.edu/charlie/covid-19/>

IPAC Site (including info on Aerosol-generating procedures): <http://intranet.mayo.edu/charlie/infection-prevention-control/agg/>

Acceptable Mask Guide <http://intranet.mayo.edu/charlie/infection-prevention-control/files/2020/05/Mask-Guide.pdf>

PPE Reuse Guide <http://intranet.mayo.edu/charlie/infection-prevention-control/ipac-situation-update/covid19-ppe-reuse/>

Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science Site: <https://college.mayo.edu/covid19/>.

COVID-10 Symptom List: <http://intranet.mayo.edu/charlie/covid-19/ufags/i-have-a-cough-should-i-call-the-nurse-line-or-occupational-health/>

Thank you for making this pandemic a teachable moment for your learners.

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