

## FIU Academic Health Clinical Placements

### COVID Acknowledgment

Florida International University (FIU) aims to provide students enrolled in the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine (HWCOM), Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences (NWCNHS), and Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work (RSCPHSW) (collectively called Academic Health) with experiential learning opportunities in clinical placements while protecting the health and safety of our students and minimizing the potential spread of disease within our community. As an Academic Health student at FIU, the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) or similar public health crisis may impact your experience at your clinical placement while we continue to make public health-informed decisions. The below policies and guidelines, as may be in effect from time to time, are incorporated into the FIU and any applicable Academic Health Student Handbook(s) and are applicable to all Academic Health students effective immediately. As always, we will endeavor to update you with timely information about specific health and safety guidance important to our University and Academic Health units.

- 1. COVID-19.** Florida International University holds as paramount the health, safety and welfare of every member of its community. FIU, however, cannot guarantee a COVID-19-free environment on your clinical placement. Taking steps to minimize the risk of COVID-19 infections (or any other spread of disease) is a shared responsibility. Every member of our community – including you – must do their part. This means adhering to national, state, and local health guidelines and requirements, and adhering to those measures FIU or your clinical placement deems safe and appropriate. Each student understands and acknowledges that there is a risk of being exposed to or contracting COVID-19 by engaging in a clinical placement. By beginning a clinical placement, each student understands and acknowledges that becoming exposed to or infected with COVID-19 is a possibility and does so knowingly. Students are expected to adhere to any additional guidelines or requirements established by the clinical site to minimize the risk of COVID-19 which may include, but is not limited to testing, agreement to waivers of liability, or attestations to well-being. Failure to adhere to the requirements set forth by a clinical placement may result, in the sole discretion of the clinical site, in the exclusion of the student from the clinical placement. Any action taken by the clinical placement, may also subject the student to disciplinary action. If students experience any concerns or issues with safety measures at a clinical placement, this information should be immediately shared with their faculty on record for clinical course, Department Chair, Clinical Education Coordinator/Director. FIU assumes no responsibility or liability for safety or mitigation measures, or the lack thereof, at any Academic Health clinical site related to the spread of disease including COVID-19.
- 2. Health and Safety.** We expect that all members of the FIU Academic Health community act in a manner that demonstrates respect and consideration for those around them, including respect and consideration for the health and safety of all community members. All student are prohibited from creating a health or safety hazard within FIU and at their respective clinical placements. A clinical site may request or require a student to leave a clinical placement if their continued presence poses a health or safety risk for other students, staff, or patients. Student are required to comply with health and safety laws, orders, ordinances, regulations and health and safety guidance adopted by FIU, FIU Academic Health, and their clinical placements as it relates to public health crises, including COVID-19. Specific details will be provided as circumstances dictate, but this may include, and is not limited to, social distancing, limitations on mass gatherings, wearing a face covering, COVID-19 diagnostic and surveillance testing contact tracing, disinfection protocols, limitations on guests into

clinical placements, and quarantine / isolation requirements. You agree to do all of this not just for yourself, but for the safety of others, and because this is consistent with the spirit of FIU.

3. **Education.** I understand it's my obligation to read and understand the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) notices and travel health precautions. I will receive education provided by FIU Academic Health or my clinical placement discussing potential COVID-19 virus-related health risks and recommended precautions. I will be given the opportunity to ask questions regarding the COVID-19 virus during and after the meeting.
4. **Quarantine / Isolation / Separation.** Any Academic Health student with symptoms or a confirmed case of COVID-19 must immediately disclose that information to their faculty on record for clinical course, Department Chair, Clinical Education Coordinator/Director. A student may be required to immediately get tested and/or quarantine to manage the spread of COVID-19. At any time, FIU Academic Health or your clinical placement may request or require a student to cease or limit participation in their clinical placement when that student's continued presence poses a health or safety risk for other students or patients. Academic Health students are required to comply with requests from FIU Academic Health or their clinical placements to leave or limit participation due to COVID-19 or other public health emergency and failure to do so is a violation of the FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code and any applicable Academic Health Student Handbook and may subject a student to disciplinary action. Prior to returning to their clinical placement, a student must satisfy re-entry requirements such as, but not limited to, a negative COVID-19 test.
5. **De-Densifying Efforts.** Students are required to comply with any de-densifying efforts needed on their clinical placements due to COVID-19 or other public health emergency, including, but not limited to, alternate schedules or small group learning.
6. **Revisions.**
  - a. Upon reasonable notice, FIU Academic Health reserves the right to change the terms of this Acknowledgment due to public health emergency needs and guidance or local, state, or federal ordinances.
  - b. If a student declines to accept or abide by the terms of this Acknowledgment, he/she is prohibited from participating in any clinical placement. By participating in a clinical placement, Academic Health students acknowledge and agree to adhere to the safety precautions along with the protocols and plans the Academic Health unit and clinical placement have created related to clinical placements to limit the risk of COVID-19 transmission.