



## **West Penn Hospital School of Nursing COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan**

In accordance with the recommendations from Center for Disease Control, the State of Pennsylvania Department of Education, and Allegheny Health Network policies and procedures, West Penn Hospital School of Nursing has developed the following COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan to ensure the safe resumption of on-site classroom and clinical learning as well as mitigate community spread.

These guidelines will be implemented at the start of the 2020-2021 academic year, and may change throughout the year as new recommendations are provided. Students will be held accountable to adhering to the outlined COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan while enrolled as a student at West Penn Hospital School of Nursing

### **Student Attestation and Voluntary Reporting**

Prior to attending any classroom or clinical learning activity, students should confirm that they are not experiencing any of the following:

- A temperature above 100.0 degrees
- Onset of cough
- A new onset of shortness of breath (outside of seasonal allergies)
- Sore throat
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- Severe fatigue
- Muscle aches or body aches.

**If a student is experiencing any of these symptoms, or has a recent known COVID 19 exposure, or has tested positive elsewhere he or she should NOT report to class or clinical.**

Immediately contact Dr. Amy Stoker, Director or Dr. Brenda Smith, Assistant Director for further guidance. Students may also phone Allegheny Health Network COVID 19 information line at (412)-888-1200 for additional direction.

### **Face Coverings and Personal Protective Equipment.**

*Campus Building, Classroom, and Laboratory*

Face coverings are **required** for all students, faculty and staff in all School of Nursing classroom, public areas and shared spaces such as study areas and lounges. Students should plan to bring their own preferred face coverings with them while on campus for classroom activities. Face coverings should be worn throughout the duration of classroom activities (except when eating or drinking) and especially when social distancing cannot be accomplished.



### *Clinical and Hospital Settings*

Appropriate surgical face masks and face shields will be provided to each student for “patient related” clinical activities. Face masks must be worn at all times while on the clinical unit in the hospital setting. Both face masks and face shields must be worn when in direct contact with patients during all patient care activities. *\*Policies and procedures regarding the use of personal protective equipment may vary among clinical affiliates.*

### **Social Distancing**

Students, faculty and staff should maintain a safe social distance if at least 6 feet apart when feasible. This includes: classrooms, laboratories, hallways, restrooms and common areas.

Students are encouraged to schedule appointments and utilize emails or telephone calls to discuss concerns with faculty, financial aid and administration. When feasible, students should limit in-person appointments and non-scheduled office walk-ins.

### *Number of Students in Classrooms*

Class size will be limited to accommodate appropriate social distancing of individuals in classroom spaces. Additional desks and chairs will be removed to allow only the maximum occupancy of students in the classroom. Signs are posted outside classrooms indicating the maximum occupancy.

### *Common Spaces (Lounges, Study Areas, Restrooms, Hallways, and Elevators)*

Occupancy in common spaces such as lounges, study areas, restrooms and elevators are limited and may be further restricted to ensure appropriate social distancing. Signs are posted outside common areas indicating the maximum occupancy.

Students should avoid congregating in main hallways outside classroom areas, faculty offices and main lobby area. In addition students are encouraged to utilize stairwells as opposed to elevators as elevator capacity will also be restricted.

### **Travel**

Students should avoid all unnecessary travel. Students should report if they have traveled (domestic or international) to high prevalence or “hot spot” areas in the previous 14 days prior to the start of classroom and/or clinical activities.

Students are encouraged to voluntarily report travel plans prior to traveling during the academic year to School of Nursing administration.



## **Hygiene and Sanitation**

Students should practice hand hygiene by washing their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Additional hand sanitizer stations have been added to common areas of the campus. Disinfectant wipes will be available in common areas for student use. Daily cleaning and disinfecting of common area surfaces such as desks, tables and doorknobs will be implemented.

## **Residence Hall**

Student residents will be assigned a private dorm room. Student residents should continue to practice social distancing and wear face coverings in any public shared spaces such as lounges and study areas.

Student residents will be assigned specific shared kitchen and restroom area based upon the location of their assigned dorm room.

Visitation will be limited. All visitors must be scheduled and approved by administration prior to arrival to ensure appropriate screening.

Additional guidelines will be provided to those living in residence hall.