



TO: Students, Preceptors and Site Coordinators
FROM: Tiana Johnson, Director of Experiential Education (tiana.johnson@hamptonu.edu)
Rita Dove, Assistant Director, (rita.dove@hamptonu.edu)
Selena Williams-Nobles, Administrative Asst, (selena.williamsnobles@hamptonu.edu)
DATE: March 19, 2020
RE: Covid-19 Update from the Office of Experiential Education

Dear Students, Preceptors and Site Coordinators,

At this time, the Office of Experiential Education (OEE) will continue with all APPE rotations as scheduled for students to care for patients and continue to learn in Block 9. We understand this is a stressful time for all. However, as we enter the last rotation of the cycle and our students prepare to graduate, we are hopeful that the involvement of students on-site and their assistance with projects continues to prove beneficial.

If any changes occur during the rotation that will impact student involvement on-site, the students and preceptors are requested to contact the Office of Experiential Education as soon as possible. We will work with the site and the student to determine the best way to advance.

Below are responses to frequently asked questions that have come to OEE regarding IPPE/APPE rotations amid the COVID-19 pandemic:

If students are exposed to COVID-19 at site, what do should the student/preceptor do?

As the pandemic continues, it is increasingly likely that healthcare facilities will cater to individuals that may be tested/treated for COVID-19. We ask our students to strictly follow site policies related to known or suspected exposures. The student is to notify the Office of Experiential Education by completing the Student Incident Report on CORE and notifying Hampton University according to procedures outlined on the website. <http://news.hamptonu.edu/release/COVID-19-Advisory-for-all-Hampton-University-Students-and-Parents>. Under such circumstances, we will work with each student individually, and the site, to determine additional steps to include a self-quarantine for up to 14 days; however, this will likely impact completion of the rotation and graduation time.

Can students "work from home" on rotations?

Current guidelines dictate that the majority of APPE is to be focused on direct patient care. Students in patient care rotations may be able to work from home for a certain amount of time. In general, 20% of the rotation grade is devoted to projects or assignments. Considering current circumstances, 20% of the rotation time could be allocated to complete those assignments off-site if needed.

If students are instructed by their preceptors to work off-site for a designated amount of time, students must secure:



- Documented instruction from the preceptor on expectations for the task (e.g. times to be on-line, deadlines, project objectives, etc.),
- Access to the information and tools needed to complete task
- Feedback provided and oversight on their progress at appropriate intervals as determined by the preceptor.

Do students still need to complete graded assignments, reflection (as applicable), mid and final performance evaluations?

Yes, currently there are no adjustments to rotation requirements and evaluation criteria.

What if a student is struggling emotionally?

Pandemics can affect individuals on many levels, including emotionally. The uncertainty associated with the pandemic can induce stress, fear and anxiety. If there is concern over a student's emotional health, our Student Counseling Center is available at 757.727.5617 or visit the website for additional information <http://www.hamptonu.edu/student-services/counseling/>. Preceptors may refer the student. Alternatively, the student is free to self-report to the HU Counseling Center as well. Students are to contact the Office of Experiential Education if time is needed away from the rotation.

Appointments are made by phone and in-person. Limited walk-in service is provided dependent upon nature of the crisis. After-hours service for **emergencies** is provided by the counselor on-call and accessed through the HU Police Department at 757-727-5666.

What if a student does not want to continue a rotation?

To provide learning experiences and practical experience hours needed for graduation and licensure, the Office of Experiential Education will not cancel any rotation experiences until further notice. Students are permitted to voluntarily withdraw from a rotation opportunity any time prior to the completion of the rotation. If a student does not want to continue with a rotation as made available to them, they must report this request and reason in writing to the Office of Experiential Education, and follow necessary procedures to withdraw from the course with the Office of the Registrar. The student will be able to repeat the rotation experience at another assigned time to earn the hours and grade for graduation requirements and licensure. This is an option for all students, with the understanding that withdrawal from a rotation is at the student's discretion and will have an impact on graduation time.

What if a site cancels a rotation due to COVID-19?

Our concern is for the safety of all involved (students, patients and preceptors) as well as the educational needs of the student. The COVID-19 pandemic provides a unique learning opportunity for students to see the care and expectations placed on pharmacists and their role during a healthcare crisis. In some instances, site protocols are being adjusted for the safety of patients and workers because of the crisis. Should OEE receive notice from a site/preceptor that student engagement will be impacted or withdrawn, the student will be removed from the site immediately. OEE will work diligently to replace the necessary experience

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type in a timely manner but cannot guarantee availability. Students must also note that such a change can have an impact on graduation time.

If there are additional questions or concerns, please reach out to the Office of Experiential Education. Please allow time for a response as we work through correspondence.

Regards,
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cc. Dr. Anand Iyer, Dean and Professor
Dr. Ebony Andrews, Chair, Pharmacy Practice