

To: LCOM Class Of 2022 List

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Subject: Updates for co2022

Dear Class of 2022,

Below, you will find updates for your class. Thank you very much for your flexibility and patience in this time of constant change!

Stay safe and be well,
Audree

Hello class of 2022,

Thank you again for all your patience and flexibility as the world responds to COVID-19. We hope that you and your families are doing ok during this unique situation. To keep you informed, we wanted to take a moment to provide some additional information, with the continued understanding that this is a very dynamic and rapidly changing situation.

As stated before, our goal in OMSE is to continue to ensure that our students meet their medical education requirements. Although the clinical curriculum may look different for your class than it has for previous classes, there is some flexibility to modify the Clerkship level to keep you enrolled in non-clinical course work until students are able to reenter the clinical environment.

We also want students to know that our decisions are informed by weekly conversations with our national colleagues, the AAMC, the LCME and our clinical affiliate site leadership. On Friday, the Governor of Vermont extended the Stay Home Stay Safe order until Friday, May 15th. We are still determining the impact this will have on co2022 students entering the clinical environment, however, anticipate this will further delay your entry into the clinical environment. Although I recognize that a clear start date is unsettling, it is very important that we balance the public safety needs with your medical education needs and limit the amount of time students are delayed entry into clinical clerkships

What can we tell you today?

Currently the class of 2022 is enrolled in one of the following options:

1. Studying for Step 1
2. Doing a Medical Spanish course
3. Doing a Covid-19 Public Health Reading Month
4. Doing a scholarly project month

The original intent was for enrollment to be 3/16/2020, however the official start date was not until 3/18/2020 so the proposed course enrollment will be 3/18 – 4/15/2020.

We are still working on a revised curriculum schedule beginning 4/20/20, however the first 3 weeks will be remote, and we can provide you additional information later this week.

If I am out of state when should I return?

For those of you needing to travel back to Vermont we expect that you will need to return to Vermont and complete a 14-day quarantine, so we ask that you prepare to do so. We recognize that this is challenging when we do not know yet when you will be starting your clinical activities, however at this time we have a May 11th start date and anticipate this will change to June 1st. We hope to give you as much notice as possible once the official clinical activities start date has changed.

As you know, the situation is constantly evolving and there is an inherent level of uncertainty when we try to plan around this. We will have to reevaluate as things change, though we will try to keep you as up to date as possible throughout this process.

It is possible that the UVM Medical Center will be able to accommodate medical student learners in the clinical environment before our clinical affiliate sites or community hospitals. We are preparing for this and identifying alternative ways to educate our students within our UVM Health Network. We recognize that this will impact clinical placement and housing for some students. Although we do not have answers to these questions currently, we are preparing for this possibility and hope to have additional information in the coming weeks. In the meantime, feel free to schedule a [drop in](#) with our Assistant Deans to address your questions and concerns.

To reassure you, we have a worst-case contingency plan that would allow us to keep students enrolled and learning remotely until end of August/Early Sept and still meet the objectives of each clerkship within a 12 month period. This plan is consistent with medical schools across the country.

For now, while we continue with a remote curriculum, we encourage you to stay home and stay safe wherever you have the best support system. You do not need to think about leaving that safe space yet and we will let you know at least two weeks prior to the start of the clinical curriculum if the remote curriculum will be extended further.

We know this is challenging and that uncertainty can be stressful. Please know that the medical student services team remains available to all of you for advice and support. We encourage you to contact us with any questions ([StudentCOMServices](#)) or to sign up for a drop in meeting (see links below) with any of us. Thank you again for your patience and understanding throughout all of this. Take care of yourselves and continue taking care of each other.

With gratitude,
The Clerkship Team

Sign up for a Drop-in Meeting:

- [Dean for Medical Education](#)
- [Deans for Students \(preclinical, clinical, CT Campus\)](#)
- [Director of Academic Achievement](#)
- [Director of Learning Environment](#)
- [Director of Student Wellbeing](#)