

iCELS safe learning and work environment process

This draft will be continuously updated based on available public health information – Updated 5.2.22

Until further notice, the following policies apply to all iCELS Sim Center sessions, courses, and assessments in order to protect staff and participant health in the era of COVID-19. If you have any concerns contact Melissa Fischer, MD MEd, Executive Director of iCELS.

The goal of this document is to support safe learning and practice.

1. PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)/Procedures

- a. The university designates **iCELS as a quasi-clinical zone**. Masks continue to be mandatory in clinical settings and in order to simulate accurately they are also required in clinical examinations wherever they occur in the center (exam rooms, encounter rooms or repurposed conference rooms). Homemade masks are not acceptable unless covering the surgical mask provided. Masks are provided upon entry to the Albert Sherman Center building and at all public UMMS and UMMHC entrances.
- b. Face shields/goggles are not mandatory but can be worn if desired.
- c. Gloves are not mandatory, but should be used if appropriate for that exam (e.g. during a pelvic exam or when performing hands-on skills with any manikin or task trainer). Nitrile exam gloves are available near the door of each simulation room. Gloves can be worn at other times if desired.
- d. Effective March 1, 2022, masks are optional indoors in medical school buildings for everyone who is fully vaccinated (this does not include iCELS exam rooms or other clinical spaces as noted above). Anyone with an approved medical or religious exemption from the COVID-19 vaccine requirement must continue to wear a surgical mask, covering your mouth and nose, at all times while indoors. Masking is recommended for [people with certain medical conditions](#) that put them at high risk, and for anyone who lives with others who may be at high risk.
- e. Foam in, foam out process must be used when entering the iCELS space and when entering or exiting each simulation room.

Note: These PPE requirements are the minimum and can be waived when the standards of the simulation require higher levels of personal protection (e.g. central line insertion.)

Clothing:

- a. Users must arrive in either plain clothes or clean scrubs.
- b. If coming directly from providing clinical care proper hygiene and clothing change are requested. Masks and face shields used in a clinical setting are not permitted in iCELS.

Cleaning:

- a. The iCELS team is responsible for cleaning the simulation equipment or space between simulation events.
- b. Learners, SPs and/or faculty will wipe down equipment as directed between their uses within consecutive sessions of a single event.
- c. UMMS EBS will clean floors and general areas using appropriate materials.

Personal Safety

ICEELS is designed as a supportive space to enhance learning. Students or faculty who are not comfortable with participation due to personal or family health or related issues must apply to the accommodations committee. If the concern is not understood until the event begins students should speak with the faculty contact or lead staff on site and will be offered an opportunity to participate virtually if feasible. These students should apply to the accommodations committee within 24 hours of the event.