

iCELS safe learning and work environment process

This draft will be continuously updated based on available public health information – **9.24.2020**

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, Executive Director of Simulation at iCELS.

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

1. Symptoms

- a.** All UMassMed employees will be tested at least once for asymptomatic COVID-19 infection during the return to campus period; after that they self-report symptoms daily.
- b.** All off-campus visitors to iCELS will attest to being asymptomatic at check-in. Asymptomatic means free from fever (temp > 100F) cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain, new loss of taste or smell, vomiting, diarrhea or sore throat.
- c.** On-campus learners and collaborators will follow UMMS/UMMHC protocol and utilize the daily symptom check app.

2. Entering and Exiting iCELS (Exit doors and paths are clearly marked):

- a. SP Based (3rd floor):**
 - i. Entry:** Learners and faculty will enter via the iCELS main entrance on the 3rd floor of the Albert Sherman Center. Check-in at the reception desk, sign-in, complete attestation statement.
 - ii. Exit:** Learners and faculty will exit via the back doors (adjacent to Sherman Center drop off on North Road) or east exit (at the end of the 70's hallway)
- b. Manikin Based (2nd floor):**
 - i. Entry:** Learners and faculty will enter via the main entrance adjacent to the surgical skills lab. Please do not congregate at the entrance, 6-foot markers have been placed in the hallway. Check-in at the sign-in desk, sign-in, complete attestation statement.
 - ii. Exit:** Learners and faculty will exit via the back doors (the opposite end of the simulation hallway)

3. PPE:

- a.** All staff and visitors must follow the UMMS/UMMHC universal mask policy which requires use of a surgical face mask at all times on campus. Masks can be removed for up to 15 minutes for meals or at private workspaces. Homemade masks are not currently 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.** Foam in, foam out process must be used when entering the iCELS space and when entering or exiting each simulation room.
- c.** When performing hands-on skills with any manikin or task trainer, nitrile exam gloves must be worn. These are available near the door of each simulation room.
- d.** All participants in iCELS exercises must wear a face shield **or goggles**. Participants **may wear their own face shield/goggles or a face shield will be loaned to learners and**

faculty while on-site and will be cleaned by iCELS staff members between use. iCELS does not have goggles to loan.

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.)

4. 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 required. Masks and face shields used in a clinical setting are not permitted in iCELS.

5. Cleaning:

- a. The iCELS team is responsible for cleaning the simulation equipment or space between simulation events; also, for cleaning face shields between usage.
- b. Learners, SPs and faculty will wipe down equipment between their uses within consecutive sessions of a single event.
- c. UMMS EBS will clean floors and general areas using appropriate materials.
- d. Cleaning schedules and notices will be publicly displayed. Level of detail based on room type.

6. Scheduling

- a. When possible asynchronous or off-site didactics will be provided to limit physical time in the center and focus that time on hands-on skills.

7. Spacing

- a. The number of learners, faculty and staff in a simulated clinical space is modeled to the contemporary institutional and state guidance and varies depending on classroom or simulation space setting and program.
 - i. for classroom-based didactics participants must be separated by 6 feet.
 - ii. Single person skills separated by 6 feet
 - iii. For team-based experiences, model to the minimum number required for the Team; **participants will separate to 6 feet during pauses in the simulation.**
- b. Tape on the floor or other marking will be provided for observers and to reinforce physical distancing when possible

8. Travel Guidance

- a. Adherence to all travel and return to campus policies are required.
- b. All visitors or returning travelers are expected to self-quarantine for 14-days, except for those traveling from states deemed “lower-risk” states.
- b. For the most current list of risk level for states follow this link:
<https://www.umassmed.edu/coronavirus/travel-guidance/>

Personal Safety

iCELS 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.