

To: College of Nursing
Sent: Friday, April 3, 2020 9:18 PM
Subject: Dean's Update - COVID-19 Update Students, Staff, & Faculty



The University of Oklahoma

Health Sciences Center

Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing
Office of the Dean

April 3, 2020

Dear Students, Staff and Faculty,

This Dean's Update provides important information regarding **Spring 2020 Graduation, Summer 2020 Course Offerings, and University and Community-Based Support Services**.

Spring 2020 Graduation: The in-person graduation ceremonies have been postponed. The University is looking forward to safely celebrating your academic accomplishments and ask that you consider participating in some or all of the options below:

- 1) The College of Nursing Convocation. More details to follow for each of our sites.
- 2) The OU **University-wide virtual ceremony** at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 8. Please plan to attend virtually and invite your family and friends to join you. After applying for graduation, each graduate will be sent a unique link to register for the virtual ceremony. The registration process can only be done through this link.
- 3) All May 2020 graduation candidates are also invited to attend the rescheduled Spring 2020 graduation ceremonies, scheduled for **Saturday, August 8, 2020, and Sunday, August 9, 2020**, in the Lloyd Noble Center located in Norman, Oklahoma. More details to follow.

I look forward to celebrating this important milestone with you in the near future! More details will be available soon on the [Commencement website](#). If you have any questions, please email commencement@ou.edu. Please also see special message from Provost Sanders [here](#).

Summer 2020 Course Offerings: All College of Nursing summer 2020 course offerings will be delivered online. I anticipate that all clinical will also be offered online, but a final determination will not be made until May 1, 2020.

University and Community-Based Support Services: Individuals or families experiencing social and/or financial hardship from COVID-19 may find this list of resources helpful.

- **Student Resources for COVID Testing, Wellness, Counseling**
 - HSC-OKC | <https://students.ouhsc.edu/coronavirus>
 - HSC-Tulsa | <http://www.ou.edu/tulsastudentaffairs/operations-updates>
 - University wide information | <http://www.ou.edu/coronavirus>

- **HSC Sooners Helping Sooners:** Go to <https://www.ouhsc.edu/coronavirus>, scroll to “Relief Efforts” and click <Apply to HSC Sooners Helping Sooners>. This is a scholarship for OUHSC students who find themselves in extenuating circumstances and in need of emergency financial assistance. This site is managed by HSC Student Affairs, Kate Stanton, AVP Student Affairs. One can also make donations to this site by clicking <Give to HSC Sooners Helping Sooners>.
- **Financial Aid:** Contact the OUHSC Bursar’s Office and speak to a counselor. This is managed on a case-by-case basis and is dependent on individual circumstances according to financial aid guidelines. You may start with this link: Financial-Aid@ouhsc.edu.
- **Oklahoma 211:** 2-1-1 Oklahoma offers information and referral across the spectrum of human need, including but not limited to rental assistance, food pantries, affordable housing, health resources, child care, after-school programs, caregiver support, financial programs, literacy, and job programs.
<https://www.211oklahoma.org/>
<http://www.navigateresources.net/hlok/>
- **Oklahoma Regional Food Bank** – located in Oklahoma City. Also has statewide searchable site for food pantry locations.
<https://www.regionalfoodbank.org/get-help>
- **Oklahoma City Public Schools** – free lunches at multiple locations for school-aged children.
<https://www.okcps.org/Page/4531>
- **Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma**, Tulsa, OK and McAlester, OK
<https://okfoodbank.org/>
- **Lawton Food Bank**, Lawton, OK <http://www.lawtonfoodbank.org/how-it-works.html>
- **School Meal Sites:** If you have children in public schools, check your school district website for breakfast and lunch meal locations and times.

I thank you all for your understanding, flexibility, and dedication as the College of Nursing makes its way through many new circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. You each have risen to the challenge of transitioning to an online learning and/or work environment in the face of social and economic challenges. Please remember, the OUHSC University community is here to support you. I encourage you to not make any life changing decisions regarding your education or your work without consulting with your faculty or supervisor.

Our college is strangely quiet without you and I hope you are safe with those dearest to you. I look forward to seeing you back on campus soon. In the meantime, continue to practice the social distancing that science shows will slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, take care of yourself and each other.

Sincerely,

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