



BLESSING-RIEMAN

College of Nursing & Health Sciences



BRCN Back On Campus

Returning to
On-Campus Courses

Back to Campus Phases

- A plan for learning
- A plan for teaching
- A plan for service

Introduction

The health and safety of our students, faculty, staff and visitors are the utmost importance. We are continuing to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic situation and taking precautions to minimize risks. The College is coordinating with the Blessing Infection Prevention team who are working with federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to educate itself on the identification and treatment of the coronavirus (COVID-19). The following plan outlines the steps that will be taken to ensure everyone's safety as we invite students back on campus.

Overview

- On April 16, 2020 the White House released guidelines for “Opening Up America Again in three phases
- Our “Back to Campus” plan also has three phases and is congruent with the White House guidelines
- As states and regions change their public health phases, we too will change ours
- This plan will be distributed to students and the College Community and signs will be posted with guidelines

Phase I

- May 4, 2020 BRCN welcomed the first group of on-campus students.
 - The 2020 Respiratory Care Cohort
 - 6 total students
 - 2 faculty
- Monday, May 25, 2020, BRCN welcomed second group of on-campus students.
 - The 2020 Second Degree Cohort
 - 15 Students, 1 faculty per class session
 - The 2020 Medical Laboratory Cohort
 - 6 Students, 1 faculty
- June 1, 2020 the Blessing Health Profession Library re-opened for on-campus access.
- If students were not from the Quincy/Hannibal area, they were screened by the Blessing Hospital employee hotline prior to coming on campus
- Students were required to wear a mask at all times
- All individuals entering the College building followed the screening process that includes a temperature check
- No student/faculty/staff were allowed to enter the building if they have any of the following:
 - They have relevant COVID-19 symptoms including chills or fever of 100.4 or greater, cough, shortness of breath, new loss of taste or smell, headache, fatigue, muscle or body aches, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, congestion or runny nose, and sore throat.

Phase II – Learning and Teaching

- In person lectures with 25% occupancy of the Fire Code guidelines
- Social distancing will continue
- All Phase I Safety measures will continue
- In person labs/simulations with less than 15 students
- Clinical as permitted by facilities
- Virtual clinical as needed
- Remote work continues
- Synchronous, online meetings continue
- Common areas used with social distancing

Learning Activity – Lectures, Labs, Clinical

- Students are required to continue social distancing by sitting 6 feet apart in the classroom
- If social distancing is not feasible, alternative sections of theory will be available
- Clinical is provided as facilities permit
- Students/faculty are NOT to provide care to patients on the designated COVID units
- Faculty will make determinations about assignment of patients in isolation dependent on PPE availability
- Frequent hand hygiene will be mandatory
 - BRCN has both adequate bathroom space for hand washing and alcohol based hand-sanitizer
 - Increased sanitation between class periods will occur

Phase III

- On Monday, August 17, 2020 BRCN will welcome the third set of on-campus students
- 50% occupancy of fire code regulations will be followed
- Workforce return to work will be operationalized with continuation of remote work as needed to remain within the 50% occupancy guidelines
- Require any symptomatic faculty/staff/students to self quarantine
- All phase 1 and Phase II safety measures for masking, screening, and social distancing will continue
- Students and Employees are required to call the Blessing Hospital Hotline at 217-277-5920 prior to coming on campus if:
 - They have worked at any other health care facility
 - They had contact with anyone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19
 - They have relevant COVID-19 symptoms including chills or fever of 100.4 or greater, cough, shortness of breath, new loss of taste or smell, headache, fatigue, muscle or body aches, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, congestion or runny nose, and sore throat.
 - Has been tested for COVID-19 for any reason
- Check on any student who has missed classes
- Ensure availability of hand sanitizer/ surface wipes throughout campus between classes
- Students and employees will follow all Blessing Health System guidelines which may include masks, face shields or goggles.

Service

- Community service will be evaluated within courses
- College service through SNO will be monitored following state guidelines

Resurgence

BRCN has a Pandemic/Epidemic Operations Plan. In light of the recent COVID-19 situation, it has been revised. This can be found in Policy Stat

In the event of a resurgence, BRCN will follow the established Pandemic/Epidemic Operations Plan.

The transition to 100% online courses and virtually simulated clinical experiences was proven to be successful from both faculty and student perspectives.

BRCN utilized this format from March 23rd through May 1st, 2020. If we have a recurrence in our area, this format can quickly be utilized.

Discussion

Students will be continuously educated on preventing the spread of COVID-19 through new student orientations, daily announcements, and computer based learning modules (CBL's).

Every individual is the first line of defense in reducing the risk for coronavirus. Symptoms, transmission, treatment and recovery of this virus are similar to influenza.

Coronavirus is spread from person-to-person by respiratory droplets, such as when someone coughs or sneezes. Both the flu and COVID-19 cause mild to moderate respiratory illness, though some cases have been severe. COVID-19 symptoms usually appear two to 14 days after initial exposure to the disease.

To help protect yourself, take the following steps to reduce your risk of infection from COVID-19, the flu or even the common cold:

- Wash your hands frequently.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Avoid contact with others who are sick.
- Cover your mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and immediately dispose of the tissue and wash your hands.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- WEAR MASKS

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>