

Dear Medical Education Community,

It's the start of a new week! Thank you to all students who are working hard to be role models for the public health response to the pandemic by wearing masks and keeping physical distancing in mind both on and off campus. Thanks also to the deans, faculty and staff who are working hard to maintain a high quality curriculum for our students.

Special Event: Tonight is the Virtual White Coat Ceremony for the UCSF School of Medicine Class of 2024!

Please [tune in](#) at 5:30pm today to hear a spectacular White Coat address by Dr. George Rutherford, who has put together an amazing tale of pandemics and the Bay Area, with lessons for our newest UCSF colleagues. Additionally, Charlene Blake MD PhD, Associate Professor of Anesthesiology and a Dean's Diversity Leader will lead the newest students and all physicians watching in the [UCSF Physician Declaration](#).

Pandemic News - What Am I Allowed to Do?

San Francisco Department of Public Health recently [announced new guidelines](#)

On the UCSF campus and for all school events

- All in person activities must be declared by the School of Medicine to be **essential** (meaning required for students to advance towards their competency development and degree completion on time).
- Any groups assembled for **essential** activities must be fewer than 12 (inclusive of faculty, staff and students), all must be wearing masks and must either maintain appropriate physical distance OR, if needed by the activity, wear face shields as well as masks.
- No group eating is permitted.

Off campus, personal activities*

- Students, faculty and staff are required by State and County law to adhere to public health directives, meaning masks should be worn at all times when outside of your immediate household. Please refer to the [UCSF COVID 19 Code of Conduct](#).
- Outdoor walks with 1-2 other people wearing masks and physically distancing is fine.
- Running or biking can be done without masks until you are approaching another person, in which case you should put on a mask before you are within 10 feet of others.
- The UCSF Mission Creek Fitness Center has availability for kayaking and paddle boarding. [Visit their website for more information](#).
- Special gatherings of up to 12 people may be arranged by a host who is responsible to follow [the SFPDH directives](#), which ensure appropriate physical distancing, masks for all, no eating or sharing of food, a duration of less than 2 hours, no aggregation pre- or post-event and attendance lists maintained for 2 weeks after the event.
- Outdoor eating gatherings may be held for groups of six or less; physical distancing is advised but not mandated. Masks may be removed to eat or drink only and must be put in place whenever someone from outside the group (like a server) approaches. [Visit the SFPDH FAQ for more information](#).
- Students are advised to limit their attendance in any group setting to no more than 2 per week.
- *As a general rule, the **less often you are within six feet of anyone without a mask for more than 15 minutes, the better**. That is because exposure to someone who is later found to be positive for COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes without you wearing a mask is considered to be a moderate exposure and thus you would be subject to 2*

weeks of quarantine.

*These comments are based on SFDPH Guidelines. [Students who live in another county should review directives for that county](#); where there is a discrepancy, students should default to the more strict guidelines.

How Will UCSF Respond to Changing State and Local Directives?

The public health directives for higher education have not changed. We are in close communications with the UCSF Emergency Operations Committee and will promptly communicate new guidelines as they emerge. Please be aware that the UCSF campus guidelines take into account exposure to front line clinicians and possible transmission to patients.

Anti-Racism Work Underway

John Davis, PhD, MD, Associate Dean for Curriculum and Lee Jones, MD, Associate Dean for Students will present the latest anti-racism work at the Committee on Curriculum and Educational Policy today at 4 pm. Once the governance committees have approved these presentations, we will schedule a Medical Education Town Hall to communicate these initiatives more broadly to the wider community.

Good Things To Read

Michael Sandel, the political philosophy professor who runs the famed course on Justice at Harvard, has written a new book on the Tyranny of Merit. [He was interviewed on the podcast "Stay Tuned with Preet"](#). It is worth a listen.

Refer to these links for up to date COVID-19 Medical Education Information:

[Medical Education COVID-19
Student Guidance](#)

[Medical Education COVID-19
FAQs](#)

Wishing you a safe and healthy week,

Catherine R. Lucey, MD, MACP
Executive Dean School of Medicine
Vice Dean For Education

