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COVID-19 Statement for Fieldwork Experiences

Prior to starting fieldwork experiences

All students within the University of North Dakota (UND) Occupational Therapy (OT) program will complete preparatory training at UND prior to fieldwork experiences including donning/doffing personal protective equipment (PPE), proper handwashing techniques, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), infection control, etc. Students will also complete pathogen training yearly throughout the program.

In addition, students will:

- Complete all training specifically required by the fieldwork site.
- Complete and have documentation of all immunizations as required by the fieldwork site and UND OT program.
- Contact UND's Disability Services for Students if seeking accommodations related to fieldwork placements.
- Attest that they have not been knowingly exposed to an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19, within the 14 days prior to reporting to the fieldwork site.
 - If exposed within 14 days prior to reporting to fieldwork, the student will:
 - notify the academic fieldwork coordinator/course director;
 - follow the most stringent guidelines for isolation, testing, or quarantine required by the fieldwork site, by UND's Safety Office, and by the state department of health in the state the student is actually in as well as the state the student is going to travel to (in the event that interstate travel is scheduled in this period).
- Attest that they have not experienced any symptoms for more than 2 consecutive days, for 14 days prior to reporting to the fieldwork site. A list of CDC symptoms can be found at:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
- If concerned that they have been exposed to a symptomatic, but not laboratory confirmed individual, students should contact the academic fieldwork coordinator at UND immediately and monitor for symptoms.

- Attest that they have not traveled outside of the U.S within the 14 days prior to reporting to the fieldwork site.
 - If such travel has occurred, the student must follow isolation guidelines prior to reporting to the fieldwork site.

During fieldwork experiences

- Follow **all** infectious disease management protocols as directed at each fieldwork site, which **may** include but not be limited to:
 - Daily screenings including a temperature check before entering the site
 - Attestations of no travel using public transportation within the preceding 14 days
- Use of PPE will follow the guidelines of the specific fieldwork setting and CDC recommendations.

Students will self-screen daily, immediately reporting any new symptoms to their OT fieldwork educator on site and the OT academic fieldwork coordinator at UND. Students will NOT enter a fieldwork setting if they exhibit symptoms as described by the Centers for Disease Control, defined here:

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

Specific expectations to mitigate risk

It is acknowledged that fieldwork experiences are dynamic, and students may vary in the level of risk they encounter across a day or week.

- i) Students should not treat any individuals who have tested positive for COVID, from the day symptoms appeared or test confirmed, and through the 14-day isolation period.
- ii) Whenever possible, a 6-foot distance will be maintained between students, clients, fieldwork educators, and other employees.
- iii) Students will wear PPE required by fieldwork site, which may include a face mask, eye protection or face shield, lab coat or gown, and gloves.
- iv) Proper hand hygiene will be followed before and after patient contact, in/out of patient rooms, bathrooms, using common computers, etc.
- v) Students will sanitize personal and shared workstations.
- vi) Students may be allowed to complete tasks via telehealth or distance media, if it meets the established objectives of the fieldwork experience.