**Pennsylvania’s State System of Higher Education
Office of the Chancellor**

**Guidance**

 **Student Internships, Experiential Learning, etc.**

**March 15, 2020**

Per the chancellor’s guidance of 3/13/20 regarding suspension of all in-person instruction starting through at least 3/29/20, please note that this guidance also applies to undergraduate and graduate students in experiential learning sites, including professional placements, practica, internships, research internships, and clinical rotations, unless the accrediting and/or licensing agency has issued superseding guidance. Internship supervisors/program directors should provide alternate learning experiences for the period of time that classes are in session and the directive against in-person instruction is in force. Any request for an exception to this system-wide guidance should be directed to the Chancellor.

DETAILS:

* This applies the 'no in-person instruction guidance' to all experiential learning sites for the same time period, March 16 through at least March 29.
* IF the time period March 16 to March 29 comprises in part or whole an instructional period, i.e., not extended spring break, students on any type of experiential learning should be provided an alternative learning experience, to the extent possible, to ‘replace’ the learning they would otherwise have been achieving on-site during the time covered by the guidance. This is not restrictive to internships, but is inclusive of all experiential learning types; it is restricted to the two-week period covered by the Chancellor’s message.
* The clarification gives no guidance beyond March 29 for any type of experiential learning. Some universities may prohibit some or all in-person experiential learning for a longer period or even through the end of the semester, corresponding to the time period that in-person instruction is replaced with remote modalities. It would be anticipated that wherever possible, alternative learning opportunities are created to replace the on-site learning for that extended period of time, just as distance modalities replace in-person instruction. What universities may not do, under the terms of this guidance, is have students report to experiential learning sites during the two-week period the guidance covers.

For additional questions, please contact Dr. Donna Wilson (dwilson@passhe.edu , Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer.