

iCELS safe learning and work environment process Updated 9.21.22

Until further notice, the following policies apply to all iCELS sessions, courses, and assessments in order to protect staff and participant health in the era of COVID-19. If you have any concerns please contact Melissa Fischer, MD MEd, Assistant Vice Provost for Interprofessional and Instructional Innovation, Executive Director of iCELS.

iCELS core belief: Everyone engaging with iCELS deserves respect, brings valuable experience, welcomes diversity and is invested in improving outcomes.

The goal of this document is to support safe learning and practice. In keeping with our core belief we ask that you treat those who enforce our PPE and practice guidelines, or choose to use PPE beyond the minimum required with kindness and respect.

1. PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)/Procedures

- a. The university designates **iCELS as a quasi-clinical zone**. Masks continue to be mandatory in clinical settings and in order to simulate accurately they are also required in clinical examinations wherever they occur in the center (exam rooms, encounter rooms or repurposed conference rooms). Homemade masks are not acceptable unless covering the surgical mask provided.
- b. Face shields/goggles are not required unless they are in use for the procedure/experience being simulated. They can be worn at other times based on user preference.
- c. Gloves are not mandatory, but should be used if appropriate for that exam (e.g. during a pelvic exam or when performing hands-on skills with any manikin or task trainer). Nitrile exam gloves are available near the door of each simulation room. Gloves can be worn at other times if desired.
- d. Effective September 20, 2022, masks are optional indoors in medical school buildings for everyone who is fully vaccinated (this does NOT include iCELS exam rooms, scenario rooms, conference rooms or other clinical spaces as noted above).
- e. Foam in, foam out process must be used when entering the iCELS space and when entering or exiting each simulation room.

Note: These PPE requirements are the minimum and can be waived when the standards of the simulation require higher levels of personal protection (e.g. central line insertion.)

Clothing:

- a. Users should wear either plain clothes or clean scrubs.
- b. Masks and face shields used in a clinical setting should not be used in iCELS.

Cleaning:

- a. The iCELS team cleans simulation equipment or space between simulation events.
- b. Learners, SPs and/or faculty will wipe down equipment as directed between their uses within consecutive sessions of a single event.
- c. UMass Chan EBS will clean floors and general areas using appropriate materials.

Personal Safety

iCELS is designed as a supportive space to enhance learning. Students or faculty who are not comfortable with participation due to personal or family health or related issues must apply to the accommodations committee and should notify the faculty lead for their session prior to the session date. If the concern is not understood until the event begins students should speak with the faculty contact or lead staff on site and will be offered an opportunity to participate virtually if feasible. These students should apply to the accommodations committee within 24 hours of the event.