

TO: All Nevada Licensed Private Postsecondary Institutions  
FROM: Kelly D. Wuest, Administrator  
DATE: May 8, 2020  
RE: CPE Update Concerning Reopening Private Postsecondary Institutions

At the May 6, 2020 Commission on Postsecondary meeting, the Commissioners discussed protocol for the reopening of private postsecondary institutions and development of a sub-committee concerning COVID-19.

The Commission unanimously voted to establish a sub-committee for issues related to private postsecondary education and COVID-19 but the focus of the committee will be determined by the committee membership. This subcommittee will be comprised of three Commissioners and two members of the public. Commissioner's Sharon Fredrick, Jon Ponder, and Dr. Thomas Kenny were appointed to the sub-committee with the community member appointments to come at a later date. All meetings will be open to the public and licensed institutions are welcome to participate. Meeting schedules will be posted on the CPE website at [www.cpe.nv.gov](http://www.cpe.nv.gov) when available.

Concerning the protocol for reopening, the Commission decided not to add any additional requirements beyond what has been published by the CDC, the Governor's office directive and the occupational boards. The Governor has indicated that Counties can add additional requirements beyond the statewide requirements. Institutions would be required to follow those requirements if imposed.

Institutions are expected to:

- Follow the CDC guideline for safety and sanitation  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>
- Follow the Governor's directive's for operation requirements by Phase. The Governor announced Phase I starts on May 9, 2020.  
<https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/news-resources/press-releases/>
- Institutions must adhere to any restrictions and protocol established by Occupational boards when conducting practical training.

### **What this means for institutions.**

While it permits institutions to open, it is not business as usual.

Operation of classroom or practical training is a form of gathering with the maximum of 10 individuals (1 instructor and up to 9 students) per group. The number of students may be less based on your classroom set up, space dimensions and social distancing

requirements. An institution may have several classes occurring at one time. It all depends on the space available and will look different across the numerous institutions.

Institutions may need or want to continue theory classes via distance education if currently approved by CPE or the alter lab class times to minimize the number of students within the facility at a given time. All temporary distance education approvals from CPE are still in effect and it is my understanding from Under Secretary Diane Jones that DE will extend their approvals for institutions with Title IV.

Institutions should consider the impact of a positive COVID-19 diagnosis on operations and the potential of faculty, staff or students being quarantined due to such exposures.

CPE anticipates many programs may need to enhance or change curriculum concerning health and safety due to COVID-19. If the curriculum change increases the number of clock hours, the institution should do an addendum to the catalog and change the certificate of completion total hours. If changes do not increase the clock hours, no adjustment is necessary.

### **Known specific occupational limits**

The Governor has not fully lifted the restrictions on massage therapy permitting services that are deemed medically necessary. NBMT has indicated that the person receiving massage therapy must have a prescription. Institutions with massage therapy programs can offer the theory aspect of the massage courses live but cannot perform the clinical aspects of the program under Phase I. CPE is seeking additional clarification and will share information with impacted institutions as it becomes available.

Gaming institutions should review the Nevada Gaming Control Board requirements for table games using the Boards maximums of students per table and sanitation protocol.

Many healthcare related fields are requiring students to have personal protective equipment (PPE) to participate in lab/clinical activities. Access to PPE has been limited and may impact an institutions ability to move students through the clinical process and delay program completion.

### **Does the plan for reopening require CPE approval?**

No.

While we are here to assist institutions, approval to reopen is not required. You are welcomed to share your plans and we will record it in the permanent school file. If you have questions, please reach out to me via phone at 702-283-8214 or email at [kdwest@detr.nv.gov](mailto:kdwest@detr.nv.gov).