

April 10, 2020

Re: Tuition Benefit Considerations to our Academic Partners

Dear colleagues,

During this unprecedented time, the university and our school has instituted new policies that may affect students using their employer benefits to cover the costs of their education here at Penn Nursing

- We have instituted a pass/ fail option that our undergraduates, some of our master's (our health leadership and nursing administration students) and post-masters' doctoral degree students may choose to use this spring semester. If your policies require a grade, can you communicate this to your employees?
- Because certification bodies continue to insist that APRN students must complete a minimum 500 hours of face-to-face clinical time and cannot substitute simulation for any of these hours, some if not most of our APRN students will have to receive an "incomplete" for the clinical portions of their courses. Most of our clinical sites – and we completely understand this – are not able to take students as they prepare to meet the coronavirus crisis.

We recognize that some existing tuition benefits require a certain letter grade or completion time for remuneration and are asking for your flexibility during this difficult time. We anticipate that all students will eventually finish their courses and, if your policies still require this, will receive a grade as soon as possible. Like you, our commitment is to preparing excellent practitioners who are now so urgently needed.

We are happy to answer any and all questions you have.

Sincerely,



Julie Sochalski PhD, RN, FAAN
Associate Dean for Academic Programs



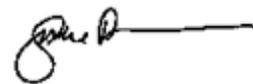
Jacqueline Lowry Golding
Vice Dean for Administration and Finance



Rosemary C. Polomano, PhD, RN, FAAN
Associate Dean for Practice



Patricia D'Antonio, PhD, RN, FAAN
Chair, Department of Family and
Community Health



Julie Fairman, RN, PhD, FAAN
Chair, Biobehavioral Health
Sciences Department