May 14, 2021

Re: Tuition Benefit Considerations to our Academic Partners

Dear Colleagues,

During the COVID-19 pandemic the University and the School of Nursing have continued to work with students using their employer benefits to cover the costs of their education here at Penn Nursing.

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. Some of our clinical sites – and we completely understand this – are not able to take as many students as they continue to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

We recognize that some existing tuition benefits require a certain letter grade or completion time for renumeration 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.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Julie Sochalski PhD, RN, FAAN  Jacqueline Lowry Golding
Associate Dean for Academic Programs  Vice Dean for Administration and Finance

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