



— ARKANSAS COLLEGES OF —
HEALTH EDUCATION

April 24, 2020

To All Students:

I hope you are all staying safe and healthy. We are continuously assessing the COVID-19 situation as it affects ACHE locally, as well as its impact from the national level, particularly considering travel required by our students from all parts of the country.

For those who are unfamiliar with Arkansas' plans for phasing the state back to a pre-COVID status, the Governor has targeted May 4, 2020, to "reopen" Arkansas according to federally issued guidelines. While we, at ACHE, are not necessarily bound by the May 4 date, it is a guide by which we can make certain decisions. Even if we follow this timeline for returning to campus, we would have to quarantine many students traveling back to campus which would take us to days before the end of the semester for MSB, OMS1, and OMS2 students in mid-May. So as to avoid the impracticalities associated with a May reopening date for our campus, we have determined to continue the curriculum online for MSB, OMS1 and OMS2 students for the rest of the semester. In particular, OMS2 students still have Capstone obligations to fulfill, which will be coordinated through online technology.

For OMS3 students, we are waiting to hear from our clinical partners as to whether you may return to the clinical environment. In the meantime, the Department of Clinical Education is exploring the possibility of your working with a clinical site through telemedicine for your remaining blocks through the end of June. You will hear more about this as we finalize the details. Until then, your didactic content will continue to be delivered online.

We are scheduled to have our last town hall on May 8 when you may submit questions or concerns for an open dialogue. Of course, you are free to submit questions or concerns to my attention directly at any time. While I regret that we

Office of the President

479.308.2265 • PO Box 10366 • Fort Smith, AR 72917

cannot have you on campus through the end of the semester, your safety and wellbeing are our first priority. I appreciate everyone's cooperation and understanding during these difficult times. We anticipate that we will be back to near full, if not full, operation by the time we begin the new academic year in July, assuming that it will be safe to do so. We will follow and enforce every necessary precaution in doing so.

In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian G. Kim".

Brian G. Kim, J.D.

President

Arkansas Colleges of Health Education

7000 Chad Colley Blvd.

PO Box 10366

Fort Smith, AR 72917

Office: 479.308.2273

Mobile: 312.937.3903

brian.kim@acheedu.org