

Subject: CORRECTION: Important Remote Updates and Questions Answered – Feb. 17, 2021
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Greetings!

I know some of you may be eager to know what the College plans to do for the fall 2021 semester. We have not yet made a decision about fall 2021 classes. The COVID-19 Task Force is expected to make a recommendation by Feb. 28 regarding how classes will be delivered for our fall 2021 semester. As always, the health and safety of our students, employees and visitors are a top priority.

By March 26, please [apply](#) for an opportunity to receive FREE money. For example, did you know the [Olewine Culinary Arts Scholarship](#) supports students enrolled full-time in the Culinary Arts Associate Degree Program?

As you have come to expect, following are the commonly asked questions and our responses to them. Please note that some of these responses are tentative and subject to change.

If you have additional questions and you do not see the answers on the [website](#), please submit the online form located on the website. Please see the webpage section called “Information for Students.”

We will continue to update you regularly via email and the aforementioned website.

Thank you!

John J. “Ski” Sygielski, MBA, Ed.D.
President & CEO
HACC, Central Pennsylvania’s Community College

1. Can you tell me more about esports at HACC?

The College recently launched a coed esports program, with five teams participating. For more information, please see this [news release](#).

- 2. Nursing students have been told that all of the Nursing programs are set up the exact same, and there will be no differences between any of the campuses. That being said, we have discovered several differences, such as how assessments are being submitted, assignments being explained and how the exams are handled. If it is the "same program," why are there major differences, such as exams including completely different sets of questions? Should this not all be standardized for the entire program, not just each campus?**

The course groups across all campuses meet regularly, and they are all currently using the same lesson plans, testing rubrics and schedules. However, faculty will not use exactly the same questions and will not reuse questions from prior exams because they want to make sure students are thinking as they take the tests. In addition, individual faculty may deliver the same material differently. The course outcomes are the same, but they may be developed differently depending on the instructor. You may bring your concerns to the attention of the [Nursing Program director](#) at your primary campus.

- 3. Has HACC mandated that all biology courses, particularly Biology 122, are only allowed one minute per question, and that we are no longer allowed to change our answers? So, once I select an answer, I can no longer go back and double check myself, and my answer is now permanent and unable to be changed. Please advise.**

No. HACC has not mandated how any course will be assessed, nor does the College dictate how faculty may assess student learning. If you have concerns about your biology class, please contact Michael Corradino, dean of the School of Science and Mathematics, at mccorrad@hacc.edu.

- 4. I am a full-time nursing student. This was my first semester in clinical. We were forced to pay extra lab fees, even though campuses are closed. On top of that, we also were required to buy \$90 lab bags to have lab materials at home. Where exactly are the lab fees going that we are paying for? We are not allowed to go to the labs plus have to buy extra supplies with our own money out of pocket.**

Lab and clinical fees help defray annual costs associated with offering certain courses. These costs include additional labor needed to offer labs, the maintenance of equipment and supplies and implementation of safety protocols. With remote instruction, faculty are still providing lab experiences for students and thus incurring costs.

- 5. Why is nursing not considered one of your approved majors to have on campus? We are supposed to be learning how to take care of people and save their lives, yet we are supposed to be learning that from home? The information may be the same as if we were face-to-face, but it is not the same learning. Nursing is a hands-on career, and we are not getting hands-on**

training. On top of that, we just learned we will be fully remote in the fall, because we weren't approved to be on campus. This means half of my four-semester program will be done online for a degree where I will be responsible for people's lives.

Please note that **no decision has been made yet about fall 2021 classes.**

For all of our programs, we balance the safety of our students and employees with completing the learning outcomes in the courses.

6. What is the HACC Dental Hygiene Sealant Night? If our campuses are closed to the public, why are we having this event?

The HACC Dental Hygiene Sealant Night will be on Feb. 23, 2021. The event is reserved for dental hygiene students to provide free sealants for current patients only. This opportunity was not promoted publicly.

Sealants are a protective coating applied to the biting surfaces of the teeth to prevent cavities.

The evening is designed to help the underserved and uninsured populations within the community who are mainly under the age of 18.

Students enrolled in the Dental Hygiene Program must see patients to complete the curriculum and be in compliance with the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Students cannot meet accreditation standards by working on other students or even family members, as their patients must have specific dental health requirements.

Students and employees in the program have gone through extensive infection control training endorsed by the Occupational Safety and Hazard Administration (OSHA).

Anyone coming to campus (students, employees and scheduled patients) must complete the [online Wellness Screening form](#) within 24 hours of every arrival to campus. Temperatures will be taken upon arrival, and hands will be sanitized. Walk-through traffic will be limited to one way to maintain social distancing.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) must be worn by all students and employees, and faculty will remain with students throughout their appointments to ensure safety measures are maintained.

Patients are required to remain in their cars until they are ready to be seated in the clinic and will be required to wear face masks (covering the mouth and nose) until they are seated for their appointment. All appointment times are pre-scheduled and staggered to prevent multiple people in the reception area.

The dental clinic will have a reduced capacity of students, employees and patients to maintain social distancing. Each station will be disinfected between patients, and the offices and reception area will be deep cleaned each evening.

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