

Learning Environment for the Fall Academic Session; 2022-23

Year 1

Welcome to Year 1 in the College of Medicine MD program! It's certainly an exciting time as you transition into a new program that you have worked hard to get into. As health and safety mandates and guidelines at USask campus and work locations have lessened, be assured that USask is still actively monitoring the pandemic. It remains important that we continue to take precautions to protect ourselves and others. The Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME) Program has [COVID-19 protocols](#) – please refer to these for any questions you may have.

Safety Measures:

Beginning July 4, 2022 to August 29, 2022, the university paused the masking mandate. The UGME still strongly recommends masking on all campuses with a 3 ply medical mask, particularly if you are unable to maintain physical distancing.

An exception is that masking will be required during clinical skills learning sessions in the Clinical Learning Resource Centre (CLRC)/Surgical Skills Lab in Saskatoon/Regina Learning Centre, and all SHA facilities in clinical areas. At learning activities outside of the campus or SHA facilities, students should follow the masking expectations at that site if masks are required. If the site does not require masks, students are still strongly encouraged to wear a mask for added protection.

For all safety protocols, including masking, expectations may change during the fall term depending on community transmission rates and potential changes to University and SHA policies – if that happens, we will send out further communication to update you. Updated USask COVID-19 safety information is also available on the University website [here](#).

Learning Activities:

Learning experiences will primarily be in-person. You can anticipate the following:

- Large group sessions will be a combination of pre-recorded and live in-person (note: videoconferencing will be used for classroom teaching across sites).
- Written exams will be in-person
- Clinical Skills:
 - All clinical activities are planned for in-person
 - OSCE clinical exams – in-person
- Case-Based Learning Module:
 - Small group clinical reasoning cases – in-person
- Medicine and Society
 - Small group Ethics sessions – in-person

In addition to this overview, we also have some important tasks for you to take care of prior to starting the term. Please follow the **'To do'** link at the end of this communication.

Location:

All in person learning experiences will be occurring on the University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon campus, Regina General Hospital (RGH), and in physician offices.

Reminder:

Information on inter-provincial and international travel regulations can be found [here](#).

Study Space

Regina – The RGH library is available to students 24 hours/day. A bookable study room is available. The Regina Learning Centre also has bookable study space for students.

Saskatoon- See [library hours](#) for ongoing updates.

Study space is typically available in the Health Science Building, room 1B11 Monday – Friday 5:30 – 11:00 pm and on weekends all day. The schedule will be posted in One45.

Saskatoon & Regina Campus Tours Available

Saskatoon Campus – the Health Science Building/Locker Tour

Regina Campus – RGH; the Learning Centre, the additional meeting rooms, the Sim Centre, and the auditorium

Learning Management Tools:

Canvas:

Each course will have a Canvas website and we use it for things like delivery of quizzes, assignment submissions, access to live Zoom sessions, and access to lecture recordings, among other things.

One45:

One45 is the curriculum management tool that contains such things as: individual student schedules, specific course information, session notes, handouts, links to recorded lectures, exam results, clinical rotations, to do lists (due dates, evaluations of preceptors, evaluations from preceptors on small group sessions), and elective schedules, with formative and final assessments

Within One45, all lectures will be coded informing students of status of the lecture (e.g., mandatory, recorded, pre-recorded, in-person or Zoom delivery, small group session with size of group included).

Syllabus:

All syllabi are posted on the [UGME website](#). **Please note:** The syllabi for 2021-22 Academic Year have not yet been posted. They will be available in the coming weeks along with the Student Information Guide below.

Student Information Guide:

This [guide](#) introduces many policies and procedures that will guide you during the Pre-Clerkship portion of your studies.

These documents (syllabus and Student Information Guide) are typically finalized and posted 1 week prior to courses beginning.

Policies and Procedures:

The [College of Medicine's policies and procedures](#) outline some of the expectations for engaging in the MD Program. These will be introduced at Orientation.

ExamSoft:

ExamSoft is the College of Medicine's system for delivering secure, computer-based examinations. These exams are delivered to the student's computer using proprietary software and specific protocols.

ICT requirements for ExamSoft:

Please note that the following was included in your letter of offer to ensure that ExamSoft is compatible with your personal device:

I acknowledge that I am required to own a laptop computer and use it for some CoM exams. The laptop computer used for exams must meet the criteria listed under the Minimum System Requirements here <https://ei.examsoft.com/GKWeb/login/Usaskmed> with the additional institutional stipulation that it cannot be a Surface Pro or any other Surface product. I acknowledge I am to have the laptop computer set up and maintained to deliver computer-based exams without conflict from other software on the computer and that I will work with Medicine IT to ensure this standard is maintained. I further acknowledge that if I currently own a Microsoft Surface product, I will contact MedIT (medicine.itu@usask.ca) to address hardware concerns.

In order to support your learning remotely, ICT has developed a guide to assist you with how to ensure you have the best coverage for your IT needs.

[How do I join a Webex Session for a Medicine course through One45 or Canvas? - IT Support - Wiki \(usask.ca\)](#)
[Webex in Canvas for College of Medicine Students - IT Support - Wiki \(usask.ca\)](#)

Zoom – <https://wiki.usask.ca/pages/releaseview.action?pageId=1943622622>

University of Saskatchewan Current Implementation Plan:

The following link will take you to the most current information about the University's plan for re-opening in the fall - <https://covid19.usask.ca/> - **Please note:** this is subject to updates as we approach the beginning of the term. Feel free to check back. If there is change that will have a significant impact on course delivery, we provide a specific update.

'To do' list for all students, please go to:

<https://medicine.usask.ca/policies/information-for-first-year-medical-students.php>

Includes forms that require completion & returning to the UME, letters of welcome from the SMSS (includes membership and fee information), SMA, & CMA.

We are looking forward to meeting you in August and are very excited to be welcoming you to the USask Undergraduate Medical Education program.