Severe Weather and Disaster Attendance Policy for UMMS Students

There have been no closures of the University of Michigan Medical School or the University of Michigan Health Care System Hospitals and Clinics over the past several decades due to severe weather. In rare instances, however, the Associate Dean in the Office of Medical Student Education, or their designee, may cancel on-site service, learning, or assessment activities if he/or she, after consultation with Assistant Deans and Component Directors in the Office of Medical Education, determines that a threat to the safety of students due to weather outweighs the benefits from conducting the on-site educational activity. Planned or unplanned absences from the University of Michigan Medical School’s core educational experiences due to severe weather or other disaster which may impact the safety of students, staff, and faculty never removes the responsibility for learning necessary material, regardless of whether or not the University of Michigan campus stays open.

M1 and M2 Years:
Cancellation of required classes for M1 and M2 students due to severe weather or disaster will follow the University of Michigan policies and protocols. Students are responsible for checking their emails and university websites for updated procedures and protocols.

- If the University of Michigan campus in Ann Arbor is open for classes, the Medical School campus will also be open for classes, unless there is a specific unique threat to individuals at the Medical School or its educational facilities where a specific exception will be determined by the Dean of the Medical School or his/her designee.
- Students will be notified as soon as possible by global communication technologies (i.e. email, C-tools) if teaching faculty are unable to travel to campus to teach, if it is deemed unsafe for students to travel to campus, or if there will be a reduction in support services for student education.
- If the University of Michigan Ann Arbor campus closes, all required Medical School M1 and M2 classes will be rescheduled and/or the content will be made available through online or distance learning technology. Students will be notified of any changes to the schedule as soon as possible via global communication technologies (i.e. email, C-tools).
- If there are no M1 or M2 classes with required attendance or examinations on a day where severe weather or other disaster which may impact the safety of students, staff, and faculty, students are responsible for the material that was scheduled to be covered in class and every effort will be made to make all class materials available and examinations rescheduled in a timely fashion.

M3 and M4 years:
Cancellation of required clinical learning activities for M3 and M4 students due to severe weather or disaster will follow the University of Michigan Health System’s closure policies for clinics and hospitals. Students are responsible for checking emails and university websites for updated procedures and protocols.

- The University of Michigan Health System Clinics and Hospitals remain open for all patient care services. M3 and M4 students will be expected to make every reasonable attempt to report to their clinical service. They should notify their clinical service attending if they are unable to come in for clinical service and learning activities.
- Students will be notified as soon as possible by global communication technologies (i.e. email, C-tools) if specific clinical sites are closed, examinations are rescheduled, or learning activities are cancelled.