



Area: University of Oklahoma School of Community Medicine PA Program, Tulsa
Title: Impact of Campus Closure on Academic Activities

Occasionally, external factors such as inclement weather or power disruptions may affect the operation of the academic campus in Tulsa. Students are typically considered non-essential personnel. When University officials deem it to be in the best interest of faculty, student, and staff, they may issue a "Remote Operations alert", a "Campus Closed" alert or a "Campus Closed for Non-essential Personnel" notice. Such messages are typically communicated via text, email, and voice mail using the OUHSC alert system. Announcements are also typically posted on the campus website home page.

With respect to OU SCM students, moving to remote operations alert means content delivery may continue remotely if consistent with the guidance of the University. A campus closed alert means that regularly scheduled classes and clinical rotation activities (including call activities that evening/night) are canceled for all students on the closed campus. Clinical students that are already on campus performing clinical duties (at the time the campus closure decision is made) are recommended to stay if road conditions are hazardous.

During weekend days with questionable weather, student attendance for clinical rotation activities will be at the discretion of individual clinical rotation directors (unless the campus is closed).

In order to maintain exam security and equity for all learners, scheduled exams and assessments may be rescheduled even if the campus has shifted to a remote learning environment.

If campus is closed, the following applies:

1. Exams

- Campus is closed after an exam has started but before it is finished: Exam will be completed. Students should be aware that the examination will be completed while the campus is closed.

- Campus is closed before an interval or final exam begins: Course or clerkship/rotation exam must be rescheduled. Students should be aware that this means that an examination may be delivered on a separate day and time when the class does not usually meet. Students will be notified of the decision by the course or clerkship director.

2. Required Activities

- There are lectures and no required activity: The course director will reschedule the lectures, or a previous year's lecture recording will be made available.
- There is a required activity on campus (e.g., team-based learning activity (TBL), simulation, physical diagnosis lab): The activity will be canceled. The activity will be rescheduled at the discretion of the course director.

Another possibility is that a campus will not be closed for the entire day but may open late such as at 10:00 am. In this case, all activities that were originally scheduled to occur after the opening time will still occur, including exams.

When adverse weather conditions are likely, or there are other situations that could affect a student's expected participation, discussing options in advance is recommended.

There may be emergency situations that warrant exceptions to this policy. In these situations, the course director or other persons in authority may alter this policy as necessary to address the emergency.

Students should have access to the contact numbers of the persons with whom they work and similarly should share their own contact information. Good communication will go far to minimize misinterpretation of unexpected absences.

Note: The campus has a telephone hotline and Web site that will provide information on campus closings.