Risk Management for Community Partners

At UNCW, we value the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, staff, and community members above all else. Thus, it is critical for us to implement appropriate risk management strategies that will help eliminate or mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19 for all stakeholders engaged in applied learning experiences. Since applied learning is central to our mission, finding ways to support student engagement in experiences that are connected to and/or situated within our local, regional, national, and international communities remains a priority—if, of course, it can be done safely.

Best Practices for Risk Management with Community Partners

Assess Risks
- Identify and document all potential risks on site, particularly related to exposure to COVID-19 for students;
- Discuss risks and plans to mitigate those risks with campus partners;
- Develop a response plan for reporting/sharing information with campus partners.

Communicate Risks
- Notify campus partners of potential risks;
- Develop a process in collaboration with campus partners to ensure notification and compliance by all students with community partner policies;
- Document any issues or concerns and share with campus partners, as appropriate.

Develop Plan(s) to Address Risks
- Consider "what if" scenarios. These could be discussed with campus partners, students, or developed within your organization.
- Develop regular protocols for minimizing risks:
  - Temperature checks for potential fever at the start of each student's shift;
  - Social distance protocols;
  - Compliance with appropriate PPE based on assigned task or role;
  - Disinfect and clean workspaces regularly;
  - Encourage frequent hand washing;
- Develop protocols for addressing unanticipated risks and/or responding to adverse situations: Send the student home immediately should they become sick or exposed and activate risk response plan. Encourage them to call the Student Health Center at **coronavirus@uncw.edu or 910.962.0587.**

Seek Guidance and/or Support When Needed
- There are multiple levels of support at UNCW. Contact your campus partners for direct questions about support or appliedlearning@uncw.edu for general questions.

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