Section VI—Staying Safe and Well

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Lab Safety Podcast

https://www.med.illinois.edu/students/m1/incoming/orientation_docs/Lab%20Safety.m4v

Campus, Building, and Personal Safety

Please take a little time to familiarize yourself with this information.

The University of Illinois Police Department page http://publicsafety.illinois.edu has a great deal of important information. Go to this page to:

- Sign up for Illini-Alerts so you will receive an email and a text message containing emergency information and instructions anytime there is an incident which presents an imminent threat to life, health, or safety
- Request SafeWalks during the evening and early morning hours
- Request SafeRides between dusk and 6 am
- Link to the Campus Emergency Preparedness site including guidelines for reacting to a police, medical, or weather emergency


Long-Term Disability Insurance

All students will be automatically assessed a long-term disability insurance fee annually. The cost last year was $58.20. This fee is required.

Health Insurance

Although medical students are assessed at the U of I College of Medicine at Chicago campus tuition rate they are assessed at the University of Illinois Urbana rate for fees since services are obtained locally. You will be assessed two health-related fees. The health service fee that is included in your tuition and fee payment allows you to use the McKinley Student Health Center and Counseling Center on campus (see section below). The other health fee that you pay is for a Student Hospital/Medical/Surgical Insurance Plan. This plan provides insurance which is administered by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign insurance office. This insurance provides coverage if you need to use hospital or physician services OUTSIDE of student health care (see below).
You may request an exemption from the health insurance portion of your fees if you have proof of equivalent coverage with another insurance company. You must request exemption by the close of the semester’s Enrollment Change Period (late September) and bring proof to Dean Hall, jimhall@illinois.edu, in Room 125 MSB. More details on exemptions and coverage of dependents can be found at http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article2_part1_2-103.html

Officially enrolled students of the University assigned to locations other than University owned or operated health care facilities are covered for medical professional liability under the Self-Insurance Program only if engaged in University approved courses or programs. The key words are "officially enrolled" and "approved course, or program." Therefore, students who wish to volunteer their time during off periods are not covered under the University Policy and those physicians or hospital-clinics should be made aware of this fact.

**Note that student insurance coverage does not take effect until August 21.** Everyone must have some form of health insurance from August 10 through August 20. If you will be covered by family, please bring proof of coverage with you when you arrive for Orientation. If you will not have other coverage, we will arrange for the University’s plan to begin ten days early, however there is a daily charge that was $3.00 per day last year, which is your responsibility. Please bring a check made payable to the University of Illinois when you arrive at Orientation. **Again, everyone must have proof of coverage for these ten days.** More information regarding the Student Insurance Policy from the University is available and the Office of Student Health Insurance information is at http://si.illinois.edu/.

**Health Care (McKinley Student Health Center and Counseling Center)**

The health service fee that is included in your tuition and fee payment allows you to use the McKinley Student Health Center and Counseling Center on campus. This fee is mandatory. Coverage begins August 8 (note that this is a different date from the beginning of health insurance coverage). Services provided at McKinley include care by a doctor or nurse, diagnostic procedures such as x-rays and laboratory tests, low cost or no cost medications if prescribed by a McKinley provider and dispensed by the McKinley Pharmacy, preventive health, health education, and mental health services, women’s health clinic, and SportWell services. The fee does not pay for care provided or prescriptions filled outside McKinley Health Center, travel immunizations, or immunizations required for enrollment (although the costs may be greatly reduced compared to other sources).

www.mckinley.illinois.edu/Units/business_office.htm

The Counseling Center is committed to providing a range of services intended to help students develop improved coping skills in order to address emotional, interpersonal,
and academic concerns. The Counseling Center provides individual, couples, and group counseling. All of these services are paid for through the health services fee. The Counseling Center offers primarily short-term counseling, but does provide referrals to the community when students could benefit from longer term services.

**ADA and DRES**

We follow the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. Dean James Hall is our ADA Officer. Please make an appointment with Dean Hall to discuss the process for requesting disability-related accommodations in medical school. The procedures for student disability accommodation requests and the necessary forms can be found at:


This process involves paperwork that **must be received by the College of Medicine Office of Student Affairs at least one month in advance of the date of the requested accommodation.**

If you have never been tested for a learning disability, but suspect that you might have a learning disability, please contact the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign’s Division of Rehabilitation-Education Services (DRES) at 217.333.4603. Please note it takes considerable time for the tests to be administered, evaluated and reviewed by the College of Medicine ADA Committee.

**Financial Aid**

All financial aid for medical students is awarded from the College of Medicine Student Financial Aid Office in Chicago. Subsidized and Unsubsidized Direct (formerly Stafford Student Loan), Perkins and Primary Care Loan disbursements are applied directly to the student’s University account. Any balance after paying tuition, fee, and housing charges are then deposited in the student’s bank account—provided the student has established direct deposit authorization. Extremely Important: Please note that although you will be attending or at least beginning the medical program on the Urbana campus, all financial aid information and applications must be made to the College of Medicine Student Financial Aid Office in Chicago. Even though our medical program is situated on the Urbana campus it is administratively tied to the University of Illinois at Chicago. Students must complete a Master Promissory Note for their Subsidized and Unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loans only one time throughout their medical school career. The note is on-line and available at <dlenote.ed.gov>. The password required is the same as used for FAFSA. Financial aid, Stafford Loan, and Grad Plus loans and help is available from the Office of Student Affairs, Room 125 Medical Sciences Building. Dean Hall is a financial aid resource who can supply you with the necessary forms for applying for financial aid, and answer most of your questions about the application. However, you can also
work directly with the College of Medicine Student Financial Aid Office staff at Chicago phone number 312-413-0127.

Emergency loans up to $500 can be made from the Barbara Houseworth Loan Fund. The funds are available through the Office of Student Affairs, 125 Medical Sciences Building. See Dean Hall in Room 125 MSB for more information regarding these programs.

Financial Information, Resources, Services and Tools (FIRST)
https://www.aamc.org/services/first/
A site designed for medical students to manage their educational debt from admission to final payment. Financial literacy, student loan organizer and calculator, deferment and repayment plans, and help managing your debt.

Free Application for Federal Student AID (FAFSA)
http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/
Be sure to list UI Chicago as your school (code 001776), not Urbana!

UICOM Office of Student Financial Aid
http://www.medicine.uic.edu/finaid
The source for monitoring your student loan application status, student aid offerings and disbursement.

UICOM Links and Resources
http://www.medicine.uic.edu/finaid/links/

UIC Office for Benefits and Other Financial Matters for Veterans
http://www.uic.edu/depts/financialaid/veterans.shtml
Processing and counseling regarding VA educational benefits, monthly enrollment verification, and other VA entitlements.