



स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के तहत सांविधिक निकाय
 Statutory Body under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

F.No.22-10/2020-INC

Dated- **21 MAY 2021**

CIRCULAR

GUIDELINES ON ACADEMICS AND EXAMINATION DURING COVID PANDEMIC FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-21

Introduction

The second Covid wave has hit our country very hard and there is a massive surge in number of the Corona virus cases across the country leading to lockdown and restrictions in movements in various States. Indian Nursing Council has received representations from various students/Institutions/Universities regarding academic session and conduct of examinations during these challenging times.

In view of the present conditions of Covid pandemic, the guidelines issued vide F.No.1-6/2020-INC dt 14 May 2020 and addendum vide 10 Jul 2020 will be extended to academic session 2020-21 to ensure adequate syllabus coverage so that the current academic session is not affected and continuity of nursing education is maintained. INC reiterates that the quality of nursing education should not be compromised and at the same time the principles of hygiene, social distancing and restricted movements must be strictly advocated by all to ensure the health, safety and security of the students, faculty and staff. However, the following changes are updated in the abovementioned circulars-

1. Academic Calendar

The dates suggested are based on the extension of lockdown period and restrictions laid down by the GOI and State Governments with specific emphasis on Covid 19 norms and may be revisited/re-ascertained as per unfolding of Covid conditions in future for taking appropriate action for continuation of academic activities.

1.1 Academic session 2020-2021

Two months extension is granted for conduct of examination ensuring completion of clinical requirements.

Conduct of examinations Annual /Year	September/October 2021
Evaluation and declaration of the result Annual/Year	October/November 2021

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In this regard, it is clarified that due to COVID pandemic in the year 2020, the last date of Admission from INC which was 31st Oct 2020 had to be extended to 31st December 2020 initially and later to 31st March 2021 based on requests from students/Institutions/Universities. Accordingly, the commencement of classes would have been from 1st Nov 2020/1st Jan 2021/1 April 2021 respectively. The exams shall be completed in different batches after completion of academic year as per the admission date as prescribed in the syllabi.

Summer vacation can be counted during lockdown period

1.2 Academic session 2021-2022

Admission process and last date of admission Annual	December 2021 No more extension shall be granted.
Commencement of classes Annual II year onwards	1st January 2022
Conduct of examination Annual	December 2022

2. Guidelines for Examination

In continuation to the guidelines already issued for conduct of examination for all batches of nursing students, it is clarified that presence of Internal examiners physically is mandatory in the examination, however if the external examiners are unable to travel, they may conduct the exam online. Students who are unable to appear in the examination due to Covid illness or any other reason can appear in the supplementary batch and this will not be counted as an additional attempt.

3. Safety and health of students

(a) Ensuring the safety and health of students, faculty and staff is of paramount importance during the second wave of Corona pandemic and the Universities/Institutions should adopt all possible measures to ensure this. The principles of hygiene and social distancing must be advocated by all at all times and all should be vaccinated at the earliest as per protocols to ensure the health, safety and security of the students, faculty and staff.

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Website: www.indiannursingcouncil.org E-mail: secy.inc@gov.in

Phone: 011-66616800, 66616821, 66616822

भारतीय उपचर्या परिषद्

आठवाँ तल, एनबीसीसी सेन्टर, प्लॉट नं. 2, कम्यूनिटी सेन्टर, ओखला फेज - 1, नई दिल्ली - 110020



INDIAN NURSING COUNCIL

8th Floor, NBCC Centre, Plot No. 2, Community Centre

Okhla Phase - I, New Delhi - 110020

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(b) These guidelines are one time measure applicable only during this academic year due to national pandemic situation. The guidelines are advisory in nature and each University/ Examining Authority may chart out its own plan of action taking into consideration the issues pertaining to COVID-19 Pandemic. Notwithstanding the above Guidelines, every University/Institution has to ensure a suitable plan for the examinations following necessary advisories/guidelines/ directions issued by the Centre/State Government, MHRD or UGC from time to time regarding COVID-19.

The earlier circular on guidelines issued in this regard vide f.no 22-10/2020-INC dated 19th May 2021 may be treated as cancelled.

Manu

Lt Col (Dr) Sarvjeet Kaur

Secretary

Copy for information & necessary action:

1. Vice Chancellor of all Universities.
2. Registrars of all State Nursing Council.
3. Examination Boards.
4. Principal of all Schools/Colleges of Nursing.
5. INC website.

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