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BRIEF19

A daily review of covid-19 research and policy.

EXCLUSIVE Breaking News Brief19

Exclusive: Boston University School of Medicine Becomes First School Outside New York to Offer Students Early Graduation

Information about how medical students can rejoin the clinical team upon early graduation has not been provided.

By Kimberly Chernoby MD, JD, MA

Brief19 has obtained an email sent out by the dean's office of Boston University School of Medicine offering early graduation for fourth year medical students who are eager to join the front line of physicians fighting against SARS-nCoV-2.

In the email, the University anticipates being able to offer graduating fourth year medical students the opportunity to graduate as early as April 10th. It is unclear if the students would then be hired on in an intern role at Boston University or released to their future residency programs where they have already matched.

The fourth-year medical students appreciate the certainty that they will be able to rejoin the clinical team. One student said "we don't know if our affiliated hospital has any intent to invite graduated M4s back to the wards, but this move ensures that no M4 will have their degree completion at risk due to COVID19 curricular disruptions."

To our knowledge this marks the first time a School of Medicine outside of New York

Boston University School of Medicine Medical Education Office

Dear 4th-year Students,

I am writing to update you on changes approved by the Medical Education Committee (MEC) in regards to your requirements given the current COVID-19 pandemic. MEC voted to allow changes to the surgical subspecialty, geriatrics, medicine 2 and subinternship requirements with broadened definitions allowing previous experiences to fulfill credit requirements. We have also reduced the degree requirements in 4th year from 36 to 32 weeks. Therefore, all 4th-year students will meet the degree requirements at the end of Block 19. If you have questions, please contact the Registrar's Office about your individual requirements and the changes that have taken place to fulfill them. All changes to the requirements will be documented on the transcript.

Dear students-

I am writing to you because we have received guidance yesterday from the LCME, the accreditation organization for medical schools, stating that all required clerkships in a medical school must be fulfilled for students to graduate. We had originally thought that we could waive block 20 for all but we cannot due to these new guidelines. As you know, geriatrics is a required clerkship for our medical school. We have reviewed the learning objectives and believe we can deliver them in a 2 week virtual curriculum to all of you that will start Monday. You will finish the elective/rotation you are on tomorrow and will begin Geriatrics Monday March 30th. Dr. Megan Young, the geriatrics clerkship director, will be in touch with you regarding the 2 week period, ending April 10th. Once you have completed the Geriatrics requirements and an assessment, you will be eligible to graduate. I apologize for the change and appreciate your flexibility.

has offered early graduation to its medical students. New York is the current epicenter of covid-19 in the United States, but the disease is anticipated to spread to other parts of the country in the next several weeks. We expect that other medical schools across the country will begin to follow suit.

Brief19 is a daily executive summary of covid-19-related medical research, news, and public policy. It was founded and created by frontline emergency medicine physicians with expertise in medical research critique, health policy, and public policy.

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