

From: Moynihan, Timothy M
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2018 8:33 AM
To: LCOM Class Of 2021 List <classof2021@med.uvm.edu>
Cc: King, Patricia A. <patricia.king@uvmhealth.org>
Subject: Convergence Attendance Policy (Second Notice)

The following is a message on behalf of Dr. Pat King:

Class of 2021:

Convergence is the last course in Foundations and will take place **from Wednesday, January 2, through Friday, January 25, 2019***. I know that many of you are now making plans for travel over the Dec.-Jan. break and I wanted to clarify the **attendance policy for the Convergence Course**.

Convergence is a problem based learning (PBL) class and meets in small groups each morning to work on solving 6 clinic cases over the month. Attendance at the small group sessions is required. **A passing grade requires no unexcused absences. A marginal pass is given for one unexcused absence and a failure for more than one unexcused absence.** The small groups are very much working sessions for discussion, investigation, and “solving” the cases. Much of the learning in this class takes place in these groups, and if you miss a session, there is no way to make up the time. It is similar to work rounds in the hospital. As a result, absence due to returning from vacation late or taking long weekends will not be excused.

For other absences (illness, etc.), Dr. Zehle or myself should be notified and will determine if the absence will be excused. You will have one day off during the month: Monday, Jan. 14, 2019 (Martin Luther King Day), which will give you a three-day weekend. I hope this helps in clarification for your travel plans.

*** Please note: January 28 is the required Foundations USMLE practice exam**

Thank you.