

AFMC Update for Students

Week of June 2

All the change and uncertainty are very stressful. The education leaders and student leaders across the country are working together to ensure the best possible education experience for students. Below you will find updates on a number of issues:

MCC exam

We recognize that there are candidates who have encountered significant challenges in completing their MCCQE1 examinations over the past week. The AFMC is actively engaged in advocating on behalf of candidates. The AFMC and MCC leadership are in regular communication and the MCC has committed to providing regular (daily) information directly to the Deans.

The AFMC is committed to continuing to advocate for the best experience possible for candidates.

Class of 2021

Students at several schools have now been able to return to clerkship. We have heard that this has gone well. More students will continue to return over the next weeks, as local conditions allow. There is ongoing collaboration nationally within Undergraduate Deans, Student Affairs Deans, clerkship directors and clinical skills directors. Everyone is working incredibly hard to optimize student experiences within the reality that certain decisions around clerkship rotations need to be made in the context of local restrictions.

Final decisions on visiting electives have not been made, however are expected in the coming weeks.

The three match 2021 process subcommittees (described in a previous AFMC update) have started their work and discussions continue to further refine details of the match timeline.

CMA Foundation Funds

The terms and process around the generous donation from the CMA Foundation to all 17 medical schools to offset the financial impact of COVID-19 is being actively determined. More information will be available shortly from universities around the application process and dispersal of funds to learners.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

There will be new stresses as the medical education system pivots to a “new normal”. We would like to re-iterate that there are a number of local and national resources available if students find that they are having difficulties adapting to new challenges. The Student Affairs offices at each university are well prepared to help. As a profession we always need reminding



that we need to remain professional and that there are support systems to help us cope with frustration and anxiety. Reaching out for support is sign of strength.