Hands-on learning piloted for fall and beyond

While Jackson College’s classes will be offered online, students who need an in-person lab or clinical experience will be allowed access following careful preparations piloted over the summer.

Students from fields like nursing, allied health, and manufacturing trades have hands-on activities they must complete before graduating. Virtual instruction and demonstration offer much, but some things must be hands-on.

Planning during a pandemic poses unique challenges, but leaders have helped students into labs and clinicals safely. These last steps are necessary for students to graduate, sit for licensure exams and go to work.

Dean of Career and Technical Education, Dr. Jan Karazim has worked with staff, administration and faculty to plan these carefully managed lab experiences. “We are in the process of developing very comprehensive precise plans to reintegrate students into our lab settings,” Karazim said. “We are following every executive order and every recommendation from the CDC, even going beyond the recommendations to ensure the safest environment possible.”

Students should expect health screenings, wearing of masks and personal protective equipment (PPE), physical distancing whenever possible and to carefully follow all directions. Plans have also been created for clinical sites that accept nursing and allied health students for practical learning experiences, ensuring it is a positive, safe experience for site and student.

With the developing situation, understand that plans may change. Students should regularly monitor their email and the College’s web site for information from the College.

Online classes offer options

Jackson College cares about its students, employees and our communities. Leadership is committed to taking all measures within its power to protect all campuses from the public health threat created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

With student safety in mind, online learning will continue for this academic year, with a few necessary exceptions for students who must have hands-on experiences. The College will offer a variety of course options for the fall semester that are both affordable and convenient:

- **FULLY ONLINE COURSES** that can be completed on the student’s schedule, within semester timelines.
- **HYBRID COURSES** that combine online learning with hands-on experiences.
- **SYNCHRONOUS LEARNING COURSES** are real-time, online courses allowing for engagement with faculty and classmates at specific class times each week.

Jackson College has a long history of offering online, distance learning classes that meet all the learning objectives of the traditional classroom. The College is ready to serve all students safely to help them reach their educational goals. Speak with an admissions representative to learn more. Call 517.796.8425 or Admissions@jccmi.edu.
Jackson College students who incurred qualifying expenses related to disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic can apply for emergency aid.

Funding comes from the College’s share of the federal Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, part of the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The College received $3.89 million from the CARES Act, and officials have decided that the entire $3.89 million will be distributed to students, divided between direct cash payments ($1.94 million) and distance learning scholarships (applied directly to students’ accounts) during this conversion to all-online learning ($1.94 million).

“The College really just wanted to help students. The students can get a cash payment, but also all students will get a scholarship to cover the additional online fees,” said Jeremy Frew, Vice President of Instruction and Student Services. “We are excited to move forward with this initiative and work with our students to fulfill their academic goals.”

**HOW TO RECEIVE AID**
Grants of $500 will be awarded to eligible students. Students may now learn more and apply for these emergency assistance grants on the website, [www.jccmi.edu/cares-act](http://www.jccmi.edu/cares-act). Examples of eligible expenses include:
- Childcare
- Health care
- Mental health
- Transportation
- Food
- Technology
- Textbooks/school supplies
- Utilities
- Housing
- Transportation

**COLLEGE to continue online**
Hello. I hope that this newsletter finds you and your family safe and well. Despite the continuing pandemic, Jackson College continues to effectively educate students, though the way we go about it will be quite different. The College continues to adapt and innovate to help students complete their educational goals.

Based upon our testing experiences to-date, our review of the science and available data regarding the virus, and with a strong desire to ensure the safety of our students, guests, and employees, I have made the decision that for the whole of the 2020-2021 academic year, Jackson College will operate online – though there are some exceptions, and some enhancements.

**SPECIFICALLY:**
- The College will offer campus-based labs for those courses wherein students must have a hands-on experience to complete a course, meet an accreditation standard, or to graduate.
- Limited housing will be available.
- Fully-interactive courses, delivered in real time, though online, are also scheduled for the fall semester, allowing students to log in at scheduled dates and times each week, and connect live with instructor and classmates, creating a virtual classroom feel;
- The College has also established numerous programs and courses online that are indirect and self-paced to meet the unique schedules of many of our students; and
- Comprehensive support services are available online in an effort to help all of our students to succeed, regardless of the existence of a pandemic.

Our College reintegration efforts are beginning in earnest while offices and services that have been working well remotely, will continue to do so. At this point, our Central Campus remains closed to the community, with a checkpoint required for any essential vehicles coming on campus. All of our other attendance centers will remain closed for the academic year.

I know that this decision may disappoint some, while others may be pleased – this pandemic has certainly presented reactions of all kinds to be sure. However, with limited campus lab-based instruction, accessibility of quality online education and support, and limited on-campus housing and athletic experiences, I believe that we have found the right balance that serves our customers, yet is responsive to the present-day environment. Obviously, this remains a very fluid global situation, and things may change. If that happens, we’ll be sure to share those changes with you via this medium, the general media, and our webpage.

I urge all of our students, campus and community to continue to exercise care and caution in light of COVID-19. We want all to be safe, healthy, and Jackson College Strong!

Dan Phelan
President & CEO
Jackson College's nursing program (Associate of Applied Science – Registered Nurse) gained accreditation from the National League of Nursing – Commission on Nursing Education Accreditation, a nationally recognized award and validation of program quality.

The pursuit of this prestigious designation was inspired by the College’s Total Commitment to Student Success, said Dean of Career and Technical Education Dr. Jan Karazim. Jackson College's associate degree in nursing program has long held the approval of the Michigan State Board of Nursing. NLN-CNEA accreditation is an additional award that must be earned and maintained. While there were many employees and community members involved in this multi-year, time-intensive process, it was the nursing faculty who truly made this possible, Karazim said.
New programs are available now at Jackson College! Do one of these fit you?

**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, Associate of Arts**
Learn to analyze a business situation, shape long-term action plans, and make countless decisions along the way with this new business degree. This retooled program aligns with universities and allows students to transfer more credits.

**COMMUNICATIONS, Associate of Arts**
Prepare for success in a variety of communication-based fields with a new degree. Students may transfer to a university to continue work toward a bachelor’s degree in communications. Communication is a great choice for an academic minor.

**ESPORT MANAGEMENT, Certificate**
The popularity of esports has skyrocketed over the last decade. Enroll to learn the business aspects of esports. Gain knowledge in planning events, esports culture, brands, and industry trends.

**ESPORT GAME DESIGN, Certificate**
Designers use computer programs to create graphics and animation for games that are both fun and challenging. Prepare for an entry-level career with studies in the creative and technical sides of game design.

**DIGITAL MARKETING, Certificate**
Learn how to promote products and services online. Digital marketers use business acumen, creativity, communication, and technology skills to create and track campaigns and interact with the public.

**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES, Certificate**
Working in behavioral sciences offers a rewarding career for those who enjoy helping others. Students planning to transfer as psychology majors may start with this certificate and may also find employment as clinic technicians.

**PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, Course**
Does a career in public administration, government, and nonprofit leadership and community advocacy sound interesting? The College is planning a future public administration degree and will pilot a first course, Introduction to Public Administration, this fall.

### NEW DEGREES

Dental hygiene cohort graduates

Congratulations to the first graduating cohort of Jackson College’s dental hygiene program! Finishing their studies during the pandemic was unexpected, but with some careful planning, they were able to complete their labs and graduate this summer.

2020 GRADUATES:
- Maddie Currie
- Jessy Fernelius
- Hayley Fry
- Kelsey Ross
- Nicole Ross
- Bentley Rupp
- Kilee Sheffer
- Lydia Stoner
- Becky Willaert

To learn more about the program, visit www.jccmi.edu/program/dental-hygiene, or contact 517.990.1463.

### Athletes recognized for academic performance; schedules to shift

Jackson College student-athletes made the grade in their studies this 2019-20 year!

Seven Jets teams earned both Michigan Community College Athletic Association (MCCAA) and the National Junior College Athletic Association All-Academic Team honors, with 75 individual Jets student-athletes receiving recognition. To earn honors, a team must have a cumulative grade point average for all athletes of 3.0 or higher.

“I am very proud of the work our student-athletes put in on and off the court. In this unprecedented time, they have shown that they are students first with their grit and resilience to excel in the classroom,” said Courtney Ivan, executive director for athletics and student development.

**SCHEDULE CHANGES**
For the coming year, all close-contact fall sports will move to winter, coinciding with actions by the NJCAA. Jackson College’s men’s and women’s cross-country team will compete this fall, while men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s soccer, volleyball, baseball, softball, bowling and golf will begin in the second semester. The esports schedule remains unchanged.

For complete details, visit jccmi.edu/sports-covid-changes/.

### Jets baseball alum called up to MLB

Congratulations to Jets baseball alum Caleb Baragar, called up to the Major League by the San Francisco Giants! Baragar, from Jenison, Mich., played for the Jets in the 2013 and 2014 seasons and was a standout pitcher, throwing two no-hitters in a week his sophomore season and earning First Team All-NJCAA Region XII and First Team All-MCCAA honors. He transferred to Indiana University to play for the Hoosiers in 2015, then was drafted by the Giants in 2016 and spent four years with minor league teams before being called to the Giants summer camp and named to the opening day roster.