



LOOKING BACK

Milestones of the COVID-19 Pandemic

2020

MARCH



- RUSM medical sciences education changes to remote delivery
- AAMC and LCME issue recommendation to pause medical student clinical rotations
- Clinical sciences activities involving direct patient care are paused and clinical students begin online electives
- Barbados declares a Public Health Emergency
- RUSM alumni serve on the front lines of the pandemic treating COVID-19 patients
- USMLE suspends Step 1, Step 2 CS and CK exams

APRIL

- Medical sciences students take NBME exams remotely



MAY

- First semester to be delivered entirely virtual for medical sciences students
- Return to Campus Taskforce and Campus Reopening Taskforce established
- The Class of 2020 officially joins the physician workforce and celebrates during a Virtual Commencement Ceremony

JUNE

- Atlantic hurricane season begins
- RUSM begins Phase 1 of gradual Barbados campus reopening with new safety protocols in place
- ECFMG releases new pathways to certification for the 2021 National Resident Matching Program® (NRMP®) Main Residency Match®
- Select clinical rotations resume in person

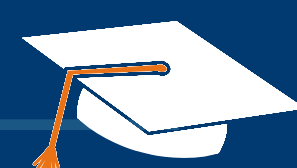


JULY

- RUSM announces tuition freeze for the 2020-2021 academic year
- Campus Reopening Taskforce opens new socially distanced study spaces in Coverly
- RUSM begins notifications of COVID-19 positive cases reported among campus community to keep students and colleagues informed

AUGUST

- Barbados reopens its borders to international travel
- RUSM moves to Phase 2 of Campus Reopening Plan

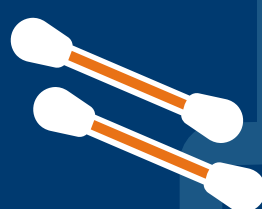


SEPTEMBER

- Barbados implements travel requirements for incoming passengers

OCTOBER

- RUSM announces students will be welcomed back for the January 2021 term
- RUSM kicks off Town Hall series to provide ongoing updates on plans to return medical sciences students to Barbados for the January 2021 semester



NOVEMBER

- Record-breaking Atlantic hurricane season ends, with the most named storms on record (30), surpassing 28 from 2005

DECEMBER

- With the approval of the US coronavirus relief package, RUSM announces distance learning option for the Barbados medical sciences program for the January 2021 semester.



2021

JANUARY



- Medical sciences students begin phased return to campus and in-person learning
- RUSM begins COVID-19 Daily Assessments
- USMLE permanently cancels Step 2 CS exams

FEBRUARY

- RUSM students, faculty, and staff commit to the RUSM community pledge

MARCH

- Barbados begins distributing COVID-19 vaccinations
- RUSM colleagues begin helping with COVID-19 vaccination rollout in Barbados
- RUSM launches March to May Return to Campus campaign