

Dear Residents, Residency Program Directors and Members,

It is with regret that we announce the cancellation of the 2020 Health Systems Academy Spring Seminar, originally scheduled for April 17-18, at The University of Montana and Billings Clinic, due to COVID-19. The Health Systems Academy Spring Seminar is an important venue for professional development and networking. We know how hard and diligently residents have been working on their longitudinal projects. However, MPA's highest priority is the health and safety of our attendees. We are taking the difficult but necessary step of cancelling the meeting out of concern for their welfare.

All activities associated with the Spring Seminar are cancelled. This was not something the planning committee took lightly. We have been discussing for the last couple of weeks how we could move forward (i.e. alternative sites, teleconferencing, moving dates). We felt due to logistics and not knowing how COVID-19 will yet affect our state, it was best to cancel. We apologize and thank you for your understanding.

If you have already registered for the conference, you will be refunded your registration.

For the residency program directors that are wondering about graduation requirements. ASHP has released the following information.

Q: My program requires the resident to present an oral presentation related to their residency project at a national or regional conference. How should we manage this requirement if the regularly attended national or regional conference is allowing either virtual participation or is cancelled?

A: If a meeting is allowing virtual participation then that is acceptable. If the meeting is cancelled then programs may allow a resident to provide a presentation locally to an interdisciplinary group.

If you have any further questions, please contact me.

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