

24th July 2020

Dear BIHC Students,

We trust that you are in good spirits and keeping safe.

Earlier in the year, academic institutions across the country were ordered closed through a Presidential directive and students were advised to attend classes remotely. Since then, the Management at BIHC has put measures and strategies in place in an effort to minimize the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our students' studies. We quickly transitioned to Online Learning through careful research and testing of online platforms, such as Zoom and Google Meet. With the cooperation of our students and staff, we successfully commenced the May-August term, albeit virtually. This has already seen us complete CAT 1 and we are now at the latter stages of the term. As such, we would like to give you an update on the way forward from here.

Final Examinations

The End of Term examinations for all theory units shall commence on 10th August 2020 and end on 14th August 2020. Special and supplementary exams shall begin on 17th August 2020 and end on 21st August 2020. Your specific timetable shall be shared with you via email in due course and we urge all students to prepare accordingly.

Practical Units

As we continue navigating through the challenges brought about by these extra-ordinary times, we wish to inform you that extra thought and care is being taken into account as we seek to re-open our campus facilities to all. We shall be following the guidelines set by the Ministry of Health and that of Education very keenly, in order to ensure that your health and safety, as well as that of our members of staff and the entire BIHC community are our highest priorities. Measures such as additional sanitization stations, hand-washing booths, on-campus signage and effective social distancing guidelines are currently under works, where a submission for inspection by the relevant government authorities shall be submitted in due course. In this regard, we are pleased to inform you that we plan to kick off our practical lectures across all levels on September 1st 2020.

More information concerning the new practicals timetable, student regulations and guidelines shall be shared at a later date.

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Internships

Hotels and restaurants have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This, in turn, has led to significant disruptions in our Internship Placement Program, in what looks to be a prolonged economic downturn. As we continue monitoring the business volumes at our partner Hospitality establishments, and factor in the health and safety of our students, we shall be taking the following measures:

- 1. Due to the closure of hospitality/restaurant establishments, along with the challenges of onboarding interns while the pandemic has yet to be completely brought under control, we have decided to put our entire internship program, local and international on hold for current students.
- Consequently, we advise and encourage both DCA/CCO -01.2020 and DHM/CFB -01.2020 intakes to take this opportunity and proceed directly to Year 2 of their programs. Thereafter, they shall be eligible for an internship period of minimum six months.

At BIHC, we strongly believe that internships add vital work experience to our students' development, as well as creating a platform for networking and potential jobs after graduation. While these internship opportunities are highly-reliant on business volumes at hotels and restaurants, we believe that upon control over the COVID-19 outbreak and a steady return of international tourists to Kenya, we will quickly arrange for the internship placement of all eligible students through our extensive Internships Network.

BIHC is actively monitoring the rapidly-evolving situation and we shall advise you accordingly on matters concerning the new dates for the re-organized October-December term.

Should you require any further clarification, please note the following communication channels:

Academic Affairs: Mr. Samuel Irungu (samuel.irungu@bihc.ac.ke) or 0719050562

Examinations: Mr. Jimmy Mwashighadi

(jimmy.mwashighadi@bihc.ac.ke) or 0719050569

Fees: Ms. Anne Ireri (accounts@bihc.ac.ke) or 0719050564/572

Internships: Mr. George Adalla (gadalla@bihc.ac.ke) or 0719050571

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BIHC Management