

REU: Sensors in Earth, Oceans, and Space Science – How We Observe Our Planet

(SEOSS) Summer 2026

Illness and Injury Policy

This policy describes how short-term illness (1 – 5 days), long-term illness (>5 days), and injuries are to be handled in the SEOSS REU program. If you have any questions regarding this policy or the details within, contact your REU program mentor or program director Amy Keesee.

1. COVID-19

All students/interns must comply with UNH's COVID-19 policy. The full policy can be found at: <https://www.unh.edu/health/covid-19-health-faqs>.

If your symptoms require evaluation, call 603-862-9355 to speak to a nurse or make an appointment by calling or visiting our website at [Appointments | Health & Wellness \(unh.edu\)](#).

Short-term illness (1 – 5 days)

In the case of a short-term illness, interns must:

Immediately contact their REU program mentor and program director Amy Keesee via email or other agreed-upon communication method to inform them of the illness.

- If the intern experiences symptoms like fever, sore throat, runny nose, or loss of taste or smell, or if they have come into close contact with someone with COVID-19, then they must test themselves for COVID-19. Interns can contact program director Amy Keesee if they require a COVID-19 home test.
- If the COVID-19 test is negative, interns should stay home (or in on-campus accommodations) until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms are improving.
- If symptoms require evaluation, call 603-862-9355 to speak to a nurse or make an appointment by calling or visiting our website at [Appointments | Health & Wellness \(unh.edu\)](#).

2. Long-term illness (>5 days)

An unexpected long-term illness can impact an intern's ability to complete the REU program. The program director Amy Keesee and the intern's mentor together reserve the right to decide how to handle long-term illnesses on a case-by-case basis. A medical note may be required. The program director will work with the intern as much as possible to meet the below goals:

- a) First and most importantly, assist the intern in finding resources and creating a plan for addressing their health needs.
- b) Second, decide if continued participation in the SEOSS REU is desirable (given the above goal) and possible.
- c) If continued participation is agreed upon, then a modified schedule and mentorship agreement will be facilitated by program evaluator Erik Froburg to reflect the time constraints and health considerations of the student/intern. In this case, the full stipend amount will be paid to the intern.
- d) If continued participation is not pursued, then the intern will be assisted in returning to their home location. Airfare will be covered by the SEOSS REU program if the intern needs to fly home. In this case, a modified (reduced) stipend, pro-rated to the portion of the program completed, will be paid to the intern.

3. Injury

Any injury obtained while working on SEOSS REU program activities (lab, fieldwork, field trip, or office work) must be immediately reported to program director Amy Keesee and administrator Bella Pizza. A medical note may be required. If an intern obtains a serious injury due to activities outside the scope of the SEOSS REU program that requires withdrawal from the program, a modified (reduced) stipend, pro-rated to the portion of the program completed, will be paid.

Participant Agreement and Signature:

I have read and understand the above Illness and Injury Policy, and I agree to abide by this policy during my participation in the 2026 SEOSS REU Program.

Participant's Signature

Date