

H1N1 Influenza Prevention, Mitigation, Response and Recovery McNeese State University

Prevention and Mitigation

- Implementation of CDC-recommended guidance for influenza response (revised August 20, 2009)
- Print media campaign in all public restrooms, on flat screen television information monitors, and on the University's Status and Emergency Preparedness web link emphasizing four core prevention and mitigation strategies:
 - Hand washing
 - Cough and sneeze etiquette
 - Medical treatment options through campus and community resources
 - Avoidance of class and work until free of fever for twenty-four hours without use of fever reducing medications (social distancing)
- Education through new student orientation and resident student orientation programs regarding prevention and mitigation strategies
- Development and distribution of a campus-specific information brochure regarding prevention and mitigation strategies
- Implementation of prevention and mitigation counseling to every student who presents at the Student Health Center regardless of nature of visit
- Procurement and placement of hand and surface sanitizing resources throughout the campus at locations of human contact and transaction (cashier lanes, dining and retail food venues, information windows, ticket offices, fleet vehicles, laboratory surfaces, computer keyboard and nearby surfaces, athletic training and exercise equipment) and advice to the campus community to use these resources
- Outreach to and information sharing with potential high risk groups (student teachers, clinical nursing students, student athletes, nursing students)
- Population of all active academic courses in Blackboard for short- or long-term alternative delivery and the continuation of teaching and learning
- Enhanced training for custodial and housekeeping personnel regarding infection mitigation and proper cleaning of high-contact fixtures and surfaces and high public traffic and human contact areas with particular emphasis on restrooms, residence halls, and athletic and recreational exercise and training areas.
- Planning and integration meetings with local Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals officials regarding potential activation of campus-based *Point of Dispensing* (POD) of vaccine from national stockpiles.

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(continued)

Response and Recovery

- Continuous communications to the campus community through local television and print media, web page, email, portal, Blackboard, emergency notification, and related information mechanisms
- Temporary modification of student class attendance and employee workplace attendance policies to accommodate the realities of high illness and absenteeism rates
- Implementation of CDC-recommended self-isolation and related self-care strategies (revised August 20, 2009)
- Special authorization for faculty to deliver instruction from home or other off-site locations via Blackboard, email, and other technology-supported teaching and learning tools
- Special authorization for affected students to continue academic work from home or other non-classroom locations via Blackboard, email, and other technology-supported teaching and learning tools
- Special authorization for certain business continuity work functions to be completed at home or other off-site locations (payroll, purchasing, information technology, public communications)
- Temporary modifications of Student Health Center use policies for students ordinarily not eligible for services
- Reporting procedures to track incidents of illness among employees and students
- Security and logistical support to public health personnel regarding use of designated facility as a transfer station for local receipt and distribution of medical supplies from the national stockpile
- Activation of the University's *Communicable Disease Plan*, if warranted
- Activation of medical *Point of Dispensing* (POD) site as prescribed via MOU with and at the discretion of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals.
- Utilization of appropriate campus facilities at the request of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for additional vaccination locations, as needed, for the campus and general public

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09/01/2009 Addendum

Alternative Delivery of Instruction

All courses of instruction have been populated in Blackboard and are eligible for delivery over the internet. Students have the capacity to access their course schedules, financial aid and fee bill information, unofficial transcripts, campus-issued email accounts, electronic library resources, and electronic portal resources via the internet. Faculty capability to access similar schedules, records, and resources via the internet is also enabled at the present time.

Campus Closure Procedures

In the event a public health event poses serious threats to student and employee welfare, the University president may act to temporarily close the University or portions thereof, in order to protect life and ensure the continuity of mission critical operations. Such closure will be determined in consultation with appropriate campus officials, local public health officials, local emergency preparedness officials, and system and state governing authorities in light of student and employee absenteeism, impact of illness to normal functioning of the institution, capacity of the University to meet its primary educational mission, and the good of the general public. If a partial closure is declared, students and faculty should anticipate conversion to alternative instruction for a period of time during which limited services that support residential students (residence halls, dining services, health services) would remain operational in modified form, and certain classified and unclassified personnel will remain active to perform mission critical business continuity functions. If full closure is declared, students and faculty should anticipate temporary cessation of classes and modification to course calendar, final exam, and commencement schedules once classes resume, and residential students should anticipate temporary relocation to their homes of origin, if possible. Full closure will require that certain classified and unclassified employees remain active to perform mission critical business continuity functions in support of prompt resumption of classes.

Plans/Procedures to Distribute Immunizations

The University entered into an MOU with the local regional office of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals in 2008 and has been designated as a closed POD (Point of Dispensing) by the agency. This closed POD would function, upon activation by DHH, to provide mass quantities of immunizations to members of the University student body, faculty, staff, and additional, pre-determined populations associated with the University. A campus planning team has met with local public health and parish emergency preparedness officials and is currently developing its internal procedures for activation of the POD upon notice by DHH as early as October 2, 2009. The University has also extended notice to the regional administrator of public health to consider the campus available to him in support of additional efforts in the interest of public health. The University contracts with Lake Charles Memorial Hospital (LCMH) and the LSU Clinic housed at LCMH to provide campus-based and clinic-based access to healthcare services and resources for students. The University also contracts each fall with a third party provider to bring influenza and meningitis vaccinations to the campus community.