



Communicable Disease Response: Template for On-Campus Youth Activities

Step 1: Communicate everyday preventable actions to stop the spread of germs in your orientation or program materials.

Clearly communicate expectations to staff, youth participants, and parents/guardians. Sample expectations may include:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
 - Always wash your hands after using the restroom.
 - If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. Germs spread this way.
 - Clean your hands prior to eating.
 - Clean your hands after touching objects such as doorknobs or shared computer keyboards.
- Do not share personal items (e.g., water bottles, wind instruments) with others.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
 - Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
 - Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
 - Wash your hands after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Avoid close contact with people who are exhibiting symptoms.
- If you are ill, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
 - Stay home whenever possible.
 - If you are attending a Youth Activity when you start to feel ill, let the youth program staff or other adult that know you do not feel well.

Consider printing and posting flyers developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to remind participants to engage in healthy habits, <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/actions-prevent-flu.htm>.

Flyers are available in multiple languages.

Sources: CDC Early Care and Education Portal, <https://www.cdc.gov/earlycare/infectious-diseases/index.html>; CDC Common Colds: Protect Yourself and Others, <https://www.cdc.gov/features/rhinoviruses/index.html>; CDC Coughing and Sneezing, https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/etiquette/coughing_sneezing.html, CDC Healthy Habits to Protect Against Flu, <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/actions-prevent-flu.htm>.

Step 2: Ensure supplies are on hand to prevent spread of germs throughout the duration of the Youth Activity.

Examples of supplies include:

- Hand sanitizer

- Sanitizing spray or wipes for surfaces
- Tissues
- Face masks for people who request them
- Rubber gloves for staff working with soiled or contaminated items

Check with your school/college/division about availability of personal protective equipment and other supplies or work with your school/college/division to purchase appropriate supplies.

Step 3: Reserve designated isolation rooms in dormitories. (RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS ONLY)

- All residential programs must maintain one dorm room for every 25 rooms reserved for medical isolation unless all youth have their own rooms.
 - Distancing precautions should not preclude staff from appropriately tending to the youth's physical or emotional needs.

Residential programs should work with University Housing to ensure this requirement is met when making reservations. University Housing will determine where isolation rooms are located.

Step 4: Educate designated staff to be aware of signs and symptoms of concern.

Signs and symptoms common to communicable diseases include:

- Runny nose (not caused by allergies)
- Nausea
- Fever
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Unexplained fatigue, weakness, or muscle aches
- Coughing (not caused by allergies)
- Red rash

Sources: CDC Flu Symptoms and Complications, <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/symptoms/symptoms.htm>; Mayo Clinic Infectious Diseases, <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/infectious-diseases/symptoms-causes/syc-20351173>; Medical News Today, <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/communicable-diseases>.

Step 5: Establish processes for responding to symptoms of communicable diseases.

Develop procedures for staff who are responsible for responding to participants exhibiting signs of illness. Sample guidelines may include:

- Designate staff members (e.g., camp counselors, dorm monitors) who are responsible for assisting youth who feel ill.
- When youth exhibit signs of illness or raise concerns about how they are feeling, designated staff should ask them to describe how they feel.
 - If the youth is demonstrating symptoms referenced in Step 4 or other symptoms of concern, take the youth to the Camp Health office nearest your location.

- When in doubt regarding the need for further attention, consult with the nurse on duty at the nearest University Health Services (UHS) office.
- In urgent situations, call the nurse on duty, who will advise on whether youth should be taken to urgent care or UW Hospital. A staff member must accompany the youth in urgent situations.
 - In urgent situations, youth can be transported to medical care by ambulance, fleet car, cab, or staff personal car (if necessary).
 - In life-threatening situations, call 911 first, then notify the nurse.
- Camp Health staff will help determine if the youth should:
 - remain at the UHS office to be monitored,
 - be picked up by parents/guardians, or
 - return to the program.
- For residential programs, youth program staff must report to University Housing about possible communicable disease to ensure any necessary cleaning or environmental hazards are addressed by University Housing.
- If youth are attending a residential program and Camp Health has determined they can no longer continue with the program, Camp Health will advise if the youth should be isolated in the dorm room reserved for that purpose.
 - Staff are responsible for delivering food to the youth, ensuring the youth have access to restrooms, and that the youth remain in the isolation dorm room (not the youth's original dorm room, unless it was a single room).

Step 6: Set clear expectations regarding continued program participation if signs of communicable disease are identified.

Expectations for Youth:

- Anyone feeling ill must report symptoms to staff.
- Youth must cooperate with staff if it is determined that their symptoms need to be evaluated by Camp Health and in situations where temporary isolation in a dormitory is required.

Expectations for Parents:

- Youth attending commuter programs must be picked up within three (3) hours or at the end of the program day, whichever comes first, when exhibiting symptoms of communicable diseases.
- Youth attending residential programs must be picked up within twenty-four (24) hours when exhibiting symptoms associated with communicable diseases.
- Youth must be symptom free for a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours before returning to the program or longer if advised by Camp Health or a physician.