

## **Ebola Information for Oregon Schools**

- The risk of Ebola in Oregon is extremely low. There have been no suspected or confirmed cases of Ebola in Oregon.
- Ebola is transmitted after physical contact with the blood or body fluids from an infected patient who is showing symptoms. It is not transmitted through the air like measles or chicken pox, nor is it transmitted by water or food.
- Students should not be barred from school or school buses if they are not showing or reporting symptoms of an illness.
- Schools should not be closed due to student or staff illness without consultation with the local public health authority.
- Students and staff should stay home from school when they are sick for any illness. Key symptoms include fever, vomiting, diarrhea. These could be signs of a communicable disease.
- Schools should use regular procedures for enrolling new students in school.

### **If students or staff has recently come to Oregon from an Ebola-affected area:**

- If students or staff have traveled to Guinea, Sierra Leone or Liberia in the last 21 days, please contact your local health department immediately. Your local health department will provide advice on monitoring for symptoms.
  - Contact information for local public health departments:  
<https://public.health.oregon.gov/ProviderPartnerResources/LocalHealthDepartmentResources/Pages/lhd.aspx>
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that all healthy people who arrive in the United States from an Ebola-affected area should check for fever twice daily for 21 days, starting the day after leaving the affected area.
- They should be in regular contact with their local health department during this time. They may continue their usual activities, including attending school, during this time as long as this is the plan agreed upon by local public health officials. If they remain healthy during the 21 days, they are not at risk for Ebola.

- If a student or staff member is under monitoring by the local health department AND begins to exhibit symptoms, he or she should be isolated in a private room with the door closed.
  - A school nurse, healthcare provider, or principal should be contacted right away. They should contact the local health department immediately.
  - Call 9-1-1 and describe the person, their symptoms, their travel, and that they are under monitoring with the local health department.
  - Parents should be notified and educated as they would for any illness.
- Students or staff who get sick more than 21 days after returning from an Ebola-affected area do not need to be checked for Ebola and are not at risk for Ebola.

**More Information on Ebola:**

- Oregon Health Authority: [www.healthoregon.org/ebola](http://www.healthoregon.org/ebola)
- CDC [www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola)