

Overview: Pandemic Response Plan

The College contagious disease planning is based on a cooperative relationship with New York State and Oswego County public health agency policies and protocols. The first priority of the College is to provide for student and staff safety and coordinate the on-campus response to a contagious disease emergency consistent with public health actions.

The College will disseminate preparation and prevention information to students, faculty and staff regarding procedures for maintaining personal health. These procedures will form an information campaign to raise awareness about illness prevention and give information about available services. The College Health Center will commonly take a leadership role in addressing the incidence of disease on campus.

The incidence of a contagious disease can rise to epidemic levels at which time the College will notify the public health community if an infectious disease occurs on campus. The President of the College will convene a strategic response group and appoint an Incident Commander to implement the College emergency response plan.

Communication with the public will be made through the college's chief communication officer. If a national or global pandemic occurs, the incident command structure will be activated and campus units will mobilize their business continuity plans.

Response Level I

No Human to Human Transfer

The College will disseminate preparation and prevention information to students, faculty and staff regarding general health strategies for prevention and care of flu and related respiratory conditions. Health Services and the Dean of Students Office are the responsible agencies for disseminating information concerning prevention of disease. Members of the College will be encouraged to develop plans for what they will do if human to human transfer of a flu virus results in a short-term or long-term public health closing of the College. The College web site will highlight a link to the College Response Plan and to preparatory information regarding the status of the virus infection - frequency and virulence - as indicated by the World Health Organization or the Center for Disease Control.

Response Level II

Human to Human Transfer

When cases of human to human transfer are identified internationally, the level of information transmission and preparedness at the College will be increased. Employees and students will be reminded to prepare for the likelihood of a period of restricted activity and up to a twelve week period of campus closing. Students will be asked to solidify plans with parents and guardians for evacuating the College and returning to their permanent residences. Planning contingencies will be ongoing and

business continuity plans will be readied for implementation and adapted in the context of presenting conditions and time of year. An incident commander will be named by the President and directed to implement the incident command structure. Command and general staff will meet with the President to review action plans for campus closing and business continuity.

Response Level III

Human to Human Transfer

The intensity of the rate of infection will trigger the implementation of the College social distancing policy including the cancellation of classes, social events and athletic programs and conferences/symposia to eliminate large gatherings. Students will be notified to implement plans for evacuation of the campus. Essential campus services will organize and implement their business continuity plans.

Response Level IV

Evacuation and Campus Closing

Assuming an increasing and sustained transmission of infection in the general population, the College will close in accordance with State policy. Students will implement plans to leave the campus. Academic and administrative offices will assume an essential personnel only status. Human Resources will implement interim payroll and charged time policies. Access to campus will be closed except for essential employees and deliveries. All service contracts and construction will be suspended except for logistical contracts in place to deal with supplying essentials for the campus. Business continuity plans will be implemented.

Response Level V

Campus Re-Open

Once public health officials declare the pandemic under control and the Governor permits resumption of University activity, preparation will begin to re-open the campus. Staff will be invited to return on an as needed basis. The campus will re-open for business and resume its business cycle based on the time of year in the academic calendar. After the pandemic passes, review of issues that arise during the campus closure will occur.