

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

OPERATIONAL PANDEMIC PLAN - SUMMARY FOR STUDENTS

The School of Public Health's primary responsibility is to maintain the health and safety of **students**, faculty and staff, while ensuring the continuity of the school's **educational mission**.

What to do if you are sick:

- **Stay home if you are sick with influenza-like illness** (fever and cough). Call the U of S Student Health Centre at 966-5768 for medical advice as appropriate.
- **Communicate with your instructor by email or phone.** For 2009/2010, the U of S has asked instructors to be more flexible than normal regarding absences, academic requirements and deadlines for students experiencing Influenza-like Illness. Accommodations will be made to cover any course work missed due to influenza-like-illness. Assignments can be dropped off at a location agreed upon with the instructor or with any staff member at the School.
- Complete the ***Student Declaration of Absence due to Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Form*** at http://www.usask.ca/uofs/notices/pandemic/Influenza_declaration.pdf and submit it to your instructor. For 2009/2010, the U of S has asked that faculty members refrain from requiring students experiencing Influenza-like illness to present medical notes to excuse absence from class or missed academic assignments.

Preparedness planning:

- **Attend a free H1N1 vaccination clinic** offered by the Saskatoon Health Region, at your earliest convenience. A complete list of clinic times and locations is available at <http://www.usask.ca/pandemic>
- **Reduce the spread of the H1N1 flu virus.** For information, visit the U of S pandemic planning website at <http://www.usask.ca/pandemic> . Practice infection prevention behaviors:
 - Wash your hands frequently.
 - Cough and sneeze into your elbow/sleeve rather than your hand.
 - Minimize physical contact with others.
- **Consider your own personal preparedness.** Students are encouraged to find a **Flu Buddy** – a friend, neighbor or relative – on whom they can call for support if they get sick. The U of S will assist students in finding a Flu Buddy, if they are unable to do so. The student need simply email their request to flu_info@usask.ca or call 966-2000.
- Watch for **email updates and information** from the U of S centrally and also from the School's Pandemic Planning Committee.
 - Class schedule updates: http://www.usask.ca/uofs/notices/pandemic/class_updates.php
 - Service updates: http://www.usask.ca/uofs/notices/pandemic/service_updates.php
- **For more information:**
 - U of S central pandemic planning website at <http://www.usask.ca/pandemic>
 - [School of Public Health's Operational Pandemic Plan and detailed Action Checklist](#)
- **If you have questions**, contact the School of Public Health Pandemic Plan Coordinator, Kathy McGaffin, at kathy.mcgaiffin@usask.ca or 966-8432.