

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

SECTION 25: Avian Flu/Pandemic Flu

Updated: 05/2008

SUNY Oneonta's Emergency Plans for Pandemic Flu

The College At Oneonta has taken some significant steps to prepare the University for a pandemic flu event. The planning is on-going and involves critical personnel and departments throughout the University. As of May 2006:

- Oneonta has formed a Pandemic Flu Assessment Team of campus experts and key response departments to conduct pre-event planning and prepare specific pandemic flu response procedures.
- Key decision points are being developed to guide the executive leadership who may have to make decisions about curtailing public events or suspending classes.
- The all-hazard Emergency Plan has been updated to include essential responsibilities, chain of command and response actions relevant to a pandemic event.
- With the assistance of the Department of Environment, Health and Safety, key Departments are developing business continuity plans specific to a pandemic event.
- Essential functions and essential personnel are being identified for the University's continued functioning during a pandemic event.
- Procedures and plans are being developed for supporting international, out-of-state and other students who may have to remain on campus if classes are suspended.
- Procedures and plans are being developed for supporting ill students who may continue to reside on campus if classes are suspended.
- In an outbreak or pandemic, Otsego Health Department and the State of New York have authority to direct public health actions, including quarantine. The College at Oneonta is working closely with these agencies to make sure our preparations and plans are consistent with theirs.
- Flu prevention information is provided to students via this website. Throughout the flu season, promotes a "Hand washing Campaign." Hand washing is a basic element of personal hygiene to prevent the spread of influenza and many other contagious diseases.
- In conjunction with the Otsego County Health Department, procedures for mass administration/distribution of vaccines, medicines and medical supplies to students, faculty, staff and members of their families are being developed.
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention message maps (pandemic educational information) are being identified for use during a pandemic event.

The College utilizes many different sources and references for pandemic planning. One of the most relevant documents guiding Oneonta's pandemic planning is: "Colleges and Universities

Pandemic Influenza Planning Checklist." The list was developed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a guideline for planning. You can review the document at: <http://pandemicflu.gov/plan/collegeschecklist.html>.