

Precautionary Measures and Information for Influenza A (A type of flu virus)

There have been confirmed cases of Influenza A with mild to moderate symptoms on the LSU campus. Our primary concern is the safety, health and privacy of students. Just as Residential Life is following the directives of the Student Health Center, Centers for Disease Control and Protection, and the Emergency Operations Center on this situation, students are encouraged to take personal responsibility for their health by practicing simple, precautionary measures to protect themselves and reduce the spread of the illness.

Students should cover the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, clean hands with soap and water often, and clean frequently used surfaces such as books, counters, desks, doorknobs, keyboards, remote controls, cell phones, i-pods, etc. Additionally, students should not enter or disrupt custodians who are cleaning restrooms or common areas, as this can lessen the effects of disinfectants and contaminate previously cleaned areas.

It is also recommended students get rest, and seek medical attention if flu-like symptoms appear. The normal fall semester operating hours for the Student Health Center are Monday-Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Saturday (Medical Clinics and Pharmacy Only) 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Should a student be diagnosed with Influenza A, he/she should communicate with all roommate(s), close contacts, boyfriends/girlfriends, etc. about the diagnosis. Residential Life will maintain the privacy of student's health information, and consequently sharing this information with the appropriate individuals around the student is the student's responsibility.

Students who live on campus and have flu related illnesses are encouraged to go home or stay off campus with friends or relatives during recovery, when feasible. When leaving campus is not feasible, students should self-isolate (i.e., stay away from others) in their residence hall room or apartment for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone (their fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine) except to get medical care or for other necessities.

Residential Life will continue routine cleaning and disinfecting of the residence halls and apartments with hospital-grade disinfectants. In addition to this, students are encouraged to use disinfectant products, like Lysol, disinfectant wipes, and hand sanitizers, to help prevent the spread of the illness. Students living on campus can contact the professional in residence, the Residence Life Coordinator, with any questions or concerns about Influenza A.

For additional information and updates, see www.lsu.edu