

Guidance for Novel Coronavirus, COVID-19

The 2019 novel coronavirus is a virus that causes a potentially severe respiratory disease, COVID-19. It was recently identified in China and is now being detected worldwide.

- A. Stay home when sick.
 - a. Students and staff who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness are asked to stay home and not come to work until they are free of fever (100.4°F [37.8°C] or greater using an oral thermometer), signs of a fever, and any other symptoms for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicine (e.g. cough suppressants).
 - b. Seek immediate medical care if symptoms become severe, such as high fever or difficulty breathing.

- B. Encourage students and staff to use “respiratory etiquette” through education and provision of supplies.
 - a. Cover cough with a tissue or sleeve. See CDC’s Cover Your Cough page. (www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/actions-prevent-flu.htm).
 - b. Provide adequate supplies within easy reach, including tissues and no-touch trash cans.
 - c. Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.
 - d. Separate sick students and staff from others until they can go home.
 - e. Encourage flu vaccine for those who have not had it this season to reduce illnesses and absences on campus (however, this will not prevent coronavirus illnesses).
 - f. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
 - g. Avoid touching face with unwashed hands.
 - h. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

For additional information, please contact ADPH at (334) 206-5971 or visit the ADPH website at <http://alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/2019-coronavirus.html>