



Klamath Community College

# **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE MANAGEMENT PLAN –**

# KLAMATH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASE MANAGEMENT PLAN

### I. Purpose:

The purpose of this Communicable Disease Management Plan (CDMP) is to provide a coordinated response to safeguard the welfare of Klamath Community College (KCC) students, faculty, staff, and our community from communicable diseases. It pertains to in-person instruction activities conducted on KCC's campus.

This CDMP will also serve as a guide, during outbreaks and pandemics, to manage the operations of the college in an effective and efficient manner, inform and advise the college community, and establish operating procedures appropriate to all constituents of the college community. This plan has been modeled after the recommendations by the Oregon Health Authority and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

### II. Scope:

The Klamath Community College CDMP shall be implemented for communicable diseases commonly found in the college population and which can be transmitted by air, object, or through casual contact.

Examples of these communicable diseases are:

1. COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2 disease)
2. Chicken pox (Varicella virus disease)
3. Measles (Rubeola virus disease)
4. Meningococcal meningitis
5. Influenza (novel strains)
6. Norovirus
7. Mumps

The scope of this Plan shall also include other communicable diseases that pose risks similar to the diseases listed above, and which would put the college community at risk.

### III. Requirements:

In the event of a localized or wider outbreak of a specific communicable disease, KCC will undertake requirements which may include:

1. Follow Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) [General Guidance for Employers](#) on pandemics.
2. Encourage students, staff, faculty, and other community members to follow OHA's latest public guidance and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) latest public guidance on all communicable diseases.
3. Form a work group, under the guidance of the President, to specifically operationalize this communicable disease management plan according to the particular outbreak at hand.
4. Implement measures to limit the spread of communicable diseases within buildings and the campus setting, such as appropriate cleaning and disinfecting procedures; monitoring for illness among



symptomatic students, staff, and faculty and offer testing location information if warranted; and distribute and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as more fully described in this document.

5. For employees who are higher risk for severe illness from communicable disease(s), make reasonable accommodations or permit remote telework.
6. Adhering to all CDC and OHA guidelines on personal protective equipment (PPE) specific to each communicable disease, and make available PPE to students, faculty, and staff within the specific disease guidance.
7. For KCC's bookstore, events, or other functions that are not addressed in this standards document, follow the relevant OHA guidance for the respective sector.
8. Work with the Klamath County Public Health to ensure it is able to effectively respond to and control outbreaks through sharing of information when appropriate.

### Public Health Principles for Reducing Potential Exposure:

The mainstays of reducing exposures to communicable disease pathogens transmitted by air, object or through casual contact are:

1. **Physical distancing**—minimizing close contact with other people by maintaining greater than 6ft. of distance between individuals
2. **Hand hygiene**—frequent handwashing with soap and water or using hand-sanitizer
3. **Personal protective equipment (PPE)**—adhering to all CDC and OHA guidelines specific to each communicable disease, and making PPE available to students, faculty, and staff within the specific disease guidance
4. **Environmental cleaning and disinfection**—especially of high-touch surfaces
5. **Isolating** those who are sick and **quarantining** those who have been exposed
6. With the above considerations foremost, outdoor activities are safer than indoor activities

## IV. Plan & Procedures

FERPA allows community colleges to share personally identifiable information with local public health authorities without consent when needed to respond to a health emergency. KCC will work with Klamath County Public Health (KCPH), and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to ensure we are able to effectively respond to and control outbreaks through sharing of information—even without student, faculty, or staff consent—when appropriate. KCC will partner with KCPH, and OHA on an ongoing basis to review and update this Communicable Disease Management Plan to ensure proper mitigation and prevention protocols are in place to minimize the impact of communicable diseases on our campuses and community.

### A. Designation of Employee to Supervise Implementation & Enforcement

In times of communicable disease outbreak or pandemic, KCC will designate an employee to be the main point of contact with local public health authorities and to supervise the implementation and enforcement of the college's CDMP.



As of the last update to this document, KCC Executive Director of Human Resources and General Counsel, Justin Wright, will serve as the college's designated point of contact. (e): [wrightj@klamathcc.edu](mailto:wrightj@klamathcc.edu), (p): 541-880-2203.

In cases where Justin Wright cannot be reached, the college's backup point of contact as of the last update to this document is Lacey Jarrell, Public Information Officer. (e): [jarrel@klamathcc.edu](mailto:jarrel@klamathcc.edu), (p): 541-880-2285.

## **B. Protocols to Notify Local Public Health Authority (LPHA)**

In the event of a localized or wider outbreak of a specific communicable disease, KCC's Designated Employee (see above) will:

1. Notify the local public health authorities of any known confirmed cases of communicable disease among KCC students, faculty, or staff, so as to address contact tracing, community notification, cleaning, and possible classroom and/or campus-wide closure.
2. Notify the local public health authorities of any known confirmed cases of communicable disease among any other individual who has been on a KCC campus, so as to address contact tracing, community notification, cleaning, and possible classroom and/or campus-wide closure.
3. Report to the local public health authority any known cluster of illness (two or more people with similar illness) among faculty, staff or students.

## **C. Processes and Record-Keeping to Assist the KCPH as Needed with Contact Tracing**

KCC utilizes and maintains computerized, manual, and systems of records that include, but are not limited to, human resources and staff records, student enrollment, and class registration records, access control system records, campus directory information, and other records that will be made available, as necessary, to assist KCPH with contact tracing requirements.

## **D. Entry and Self-Screening Protocols for Faculty, Staff, and Students**

In the event of a localized or wider outbreak of a specific communicable disease, KCC will:

1. Allow campus spaces and buildings to be open only for official college business. Campus spaces and buildings will be closed to the general public. KCC may allow campus use for authorized community programs that lack alternative venues, if programs can adhere to the requirements in this or other applicable guidance.
2. Encourage students, staff, and faculty to perform appropriate hand hygiene upon their arrival to campus every day: washing with soap and water for 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with 60-95% alcohol.
3. Require students, staff, and faculty to conduct a self-check for pertinent symptoms before coming to a campus, and provide students, staff, and faculty with an updated list of said symptoms to check against.
4. Instruct students, faculty, and staff to stay at their residence if they have pertinent symptoms of communicable diseases.
5. Faculty, staff, or students who have a chronic or baseline symptom that has worsened or is not well-controlled with medication should stay at their place of residence. Those who have other symptoms that are chronic or baseline should not be restricted.

6. Per OHA and CDC guidance, individuals may require testing (for screening purposes) and/or vaccinations prior to returning to campus.

#### **E. Plans for Systematic Disinfection of Classrooms, Offices, Bathrooms, and Activity Areas**

In the event of a localized or wider outbreak of a specific communicable disease, KCC will:

1. Clean and disinfect facilities frequently, generally at least daily when there is activity, to prevent transmission of the pathogen from surfaces.
2. Follow the latest CDC guidance on disinfecting public spaces specific to the communicable disease presented.
3. Provide regular and updated trainings to staff involved in the cleaning and maintenance of all facilities, through the partnership with KCPH.
4. Consider modification or enhancement of building ventilation where feasible. Air circulation and filtration are important factors in reducing airborne viruses. Guidance on ventilation and filtration is provided by CDC and American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE).
5. Open windows where feasible to reduce recirculation of air and transmission of airborne pathogens.

#### **F. Protocol to Isolate or Quarantine Any Ill or Exposed Persons**

KCC will take steps to ensure that if a student, staff, or faculty member develops or reports primary communicable disease symptoms while on campus:

1. The person will be directed by their supervisor or instructional staff to immediately return to their place of residence.
2. The person will be directed to seek medical care and communicable disease testing from their health care provider or through the local public health authority. They should follow instructions from their local public health authority regarding isolation and the time required before leaving their place of residence.
3. KCC will regularly provide faculty, staff, and students with information on how and where to contact the local public health authorities in Klamath county.
4. Any faculty, staff, or student known to have been exposed (e.g., by a household member) to a communicable disease within the preceding 14 days should follow instructions from local public health authority, and/or their health care provider.

#### **H. Instructional Activities**

1. For general education classrooms:
  - a. Modify layouts of classrooms and related instructional spaces (hallways, waiting areas, etc.) to meet published expectations and guidelines for infection control from LPHAs, OHA, and CDC.
  - b. Use markings and signage to indicate infection-control requirements as designated by LPHAs, OHA, and CDC.
2. For settings with higher risk of spread, such as laboratories, computer labs, implement enhanced infection-control measures as recommended by LPHAs, OHA, and CDC.



3. For standardized patient simulations or laboratory instruction in close quarters, or in practicing clinical skills with physical contact:
  - a. Provide mandatory instruction on infection control practices and the appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE);
  - b. Require use of appropriate PPE for all personnel;
4. For preceptorships, observerships, and direct patient care:
  - a. Provide mandatory instruction on infection control practices and the appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE);
  - b. Strictly adhere to the clinical facility's infection control protocols;
  - c. Confirm that the clinical facilities have the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for their students who are involved in direct patient care within those facilities;
  - d. Conduct regular symptom monitoring of students;
  - e. Follow the facility's occupational health protocols if exposed and/or symptoms develop, including immediate exclusion from all patient care, testing for the outbreak's causative pathogen, and mandatory reporting to KCC;
  - f. Perform cleaning and disinfecting per the facility's protocols.

## **I. Faculty and Staff Training**

In the event of a localized or wider outbreak of a specific communicable disease, KCC will ensure that faculty and staff are sufficiently trained in all pertinent, specific, and current CDC and OHA guidelines.

## **J. Public Health Communications**

KCC will:

1. Ensure all letters and communication procedures will be provided in languages and formats that are accessible to the school community.
2. Develop communications to students, faculty and staff to be shared at the start of on-campus education and at periodic intervals explaining infection control measures that are being implemented to prevent spread of disease.
3. In partnership with local public health authorities, develop protocols for communicating with students, faculty, and staff who have come into close/sustained contact with a person with a communicable disease.
4. In partnership with local public health authorities, develop protocols for communicating immediately with students, faculty, and staff when new case(s) of a communicable disease are diagnosed in a community member, including a description of how the institution is responding.
5. Use building signage and other communications to remind students, faculty, staff, and visitors about the utmost importance of hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.
  - a. Hand hygiene means washing with soap and water for 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with 60-95% alcohol.
  - b. Respiratory etiquette means covering coughs and sneezes with an elbow, or a tissue, especially when not wearing a mask. Tissues should be disposed of and hands washed or sanitized immediately.

6. Provide hand hygiene stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizer in high use areas such as entrances to buildings and classrooms and other areas, as feasible. Strongly encourage students, faculty, staff, and visitors to use hand sanitizer on entry and exit to each room.