

Southern Union

State Community College

MEMORANDUM

To: Southern Union State Community College Students

From: Amelia Pearson, Interim President

Re: Notification to Students Regarding the H1N1 Influenza

Date: August 24, 2009

Students should NOT attend while ill with influenza. Students with flu symptoms will be asked to leave campus if possible and to return home during recovery. The self-isolation period for the flu usually lasts for about a week. It is very important that individuals avoid spreading the flu to others. Therefore, students should not return to class until told by their doctor or until he/she has had no temperature for 24 hours without the aid of fever reducing medications such as Tylenol.

Along with staying home, one of the most important things you can do to prevent the spread of infection is to take personal responsibility. Individual precautions include washing your hands frequently and covering your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing with tissues and discarding in an appropriate receptacle.

Students should be able to complete a successful semester despite a flu-induced absence. Consistent with existing policies, faculty will provide students who are absent because of illness with a reasonable opportunity to make up missed work. The opportunity to complete all assignments and exams supports the college's desire to enable students to make responsible situational decisions, including the decision to avoid spreading a contagious virus to other students, staff, and faculty, without endangering their academic work.

Students with the flu may not need to provide a physician's certification of illness but may be asked to provide other types of verification. Ill students should inform their instructors (but not through personal contact in which there is a risk of exposing others to the virus) as soon as possible that they are absent because of the flu. Likewise, students should contact their instructors as quickly as possible to arrange to make up missed assignments or exams.

Additional information related to hand washing tips may be found on the college website at www.suscc.edu.