

August, 2009

Dear Le Moyne student and parents,

Though public attention on the issue has faded a bit, Le Moyne College continues to vigilantly monitor the activity of the H1N1 influenza virus. We remain in close communication with the Onondaga County Health Department and New York State Department of Health on the status of H1N1. In late July, the Le Moyne College Pandemic Planning Committee met with members of the county health department, a continuation of regular committee meetings and communications that have taken place over the past several months as we prepare to address potential health and safety concerns for our community in the event of an outbreak.

In an effort to reduce the spread of the H1N1 virus on our campus this year, Student Health Services is following the recommendations of our state and local health departments. As these recommendations change based on ongoing surveillance and risk assessments, we will keep students updated on how to reduce the spread of influenza, and what measures to take if they have influenza-like illness (cough, sore throat, congestion, fever greater than 100). These updates will happen through a variety of formats including Web site postings, e-mails, and campus flyers. We also recommend viewing updates on seasonal and pandemic flu posted at the New York State Department of Health Web site: [www.nyhealth.gov](http://www.nyhealth.gov)

While we take our guidance from state and county officials, please know that Le Moyne College is actively involved in developing contingency plans to assure the health and safety of our campus community. Depending on the circumstances, these plans may include actions such as relocating students in campus housing, to requesting that your student return home. Our hope is these plans will not have to be implemented, but we need to be prepared nonetheless.

We anticipate receiving communication from the local health department regarding the availability and distribution plan for the H1N1 vaccine. It is important to remember that even seasonal influenza can be a serious disease and we strongly encourage students to get the seasonal influenza vaccination. Campus flu clinic information will be posted around campus and on our Web site by the first week of October 2009. Parents and students are always welcome to call Student Health Services (315.445.4440) with any questions or concerns on any health-related matters.

Sincerely,

Shawn L. Ward, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Student Development