

Guidance for Daycares and Schools: Receiving Students or Staff from Areas Affected by Ebola

Background:

- Ebola outbreaks are occurring in five West African locations: Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Lagos, Nigeria, and Democratic Republic of Congo. **Check the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website (www.cdc.gov/ebola) for the most up-to-date information since affected areas may change.**
- The chances of getting Ebola are **extremely low** unless a person traveled to an affected area **and** had direct contact with the blood or body fluids (e.g., saliva, urine) of an Ebola-infected person or animal, or with objects contaminated with that person or animal's blood or body fluids.
- People returning from the affected areas who do not have symptoms are **not** infectious. There should be no restrictions on their school attendance or normal activities.
- Fever in people who traveled to the affected areas is most likely due to more common infectious diseases in West Africa (e.g. malaria), but should still be checked by a doctor.

Recommendations for Students and Staff:

The CDC recommends that all healthy people who arrive in the United States from an Ebola-affected area should check for fever daily for 21 days, starting the day after leaving the affected area. They may continue their usual activities during this time. If they remain healthy during the 21 days, they are **not** at risk for Ebola.

- If a student or staff member gets a fever within 21 days of returning from West Africa, he or she should consult a health-care provider **right away**. The staff member (or parent, if a student has a fever) should tell the provider about the symptoms and recent travel **before** going to the office or emergency room to decrease the chance of getting others sick.
 - A staff member who recently traveled to an affected area and develops a fever during the school day should leave the workplace, call his or her doctor **right away** for advice and should mention the recent travel.
 - If a student who recently traveled to an affected area becomes ill while at school or daycare, he or she should be seen by the school nurse. If there is no nurse, the student should stay in a private room until parent pick-up, and the parent should be told to seek **immediate** medical advice and to tell a healthcare provider about the recent travel history **before** going to the doctor's office or emergency room.
- Students or staff who get sick more than 21 days after returning from an Ebola-affected area **do not** need to be checked for Ebola and are not at risk for Ebola.

More Information on Ebola:

- For more information about the CDC's travel recommendations, visit www.cdc.gov/travel
- For more information about Ebola, visit <http://www.floridahealth.gov> and search for "Ebola" or go to www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola