

AUGSBURG COLLEGE

September 8, 2009

Dear Augsburg College parent and family members:

The H1N1 flu has been in the news a lot lately and we have been paying attention! As you may know, flu can be spread easily from person to person. The health and safety of our students is a top priority and we're staying informed through state and federal health departments to monitor flu conditions and make decisions about the best steps to take concerning our institution.

We are communicating with all students and members of our community to follow the guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We have created a webpage, www.augsburg.edu/H1N1 to provide information and updates as they become available.

For the 2009-10 academic year:

- If diagnosed with Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI), students should not attend class and should refrain from participating in campus activities, sports, etc. An ILI is defined as fever equal to or greater than 100.0 plus a cough or sore throat. The CDC recommends individuals self-isolate until at least 24 hours after they are free of a fever of greater than 100 degrees F without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- Students are encouraged to inform the Dean of Students Office, 612-330-1160 so staff can help notify instructors. Professors are aware of these CDC recommendations and will do their best to be flexible when students must miss class.
- For most students, the best place to recuperate will be at home with parents and family. We encourage parents and family members to discuss with your student how your family could respond if your student becomes ill with Influenza-Like-Illness.

We understand that it may not be possible for all students to go home. We will work with students who will be unable to leave campus to recuperate from the illness. At this time, our residence halls are full so we do not have open spaces on campus for sick students.

If a student's roommate has Influenza-Like-Illness but is unable to self-isolate by going home, we will encourage roommates to consider commuting from home for a few days if they live nearby.

Augsburg will offer seasonal flu vaccinations on Wednesday, October 7 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Riverside Room (Christensen Center). The cost for students, faculty and staff will be \$25; some will find that their insurance will cover this seasonal flu shot.

An H1N1 Group convenes routinely at Augsburg to monitor the situation. If this year's flu season becomes more severe, we will provide information to the Augsburg community via A-Mail and www.augsburg.edu/H1N1 about additional action steps.

For the most up-to-date information on flu, visit www.flu.gov, or call 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636).

Sincerely,

Ann Garvey
Vice President of Student Affairs