

Oregon School Boards Association Selected Sample Policy

Code: JHCC-AR
Adopted:

- yes


Communicable Diseases – Student

In accordance with state law, administrative rule, the local health authority and the *Communicable Disease Guidance*, the procedures established below will be followed.

1. “Restrictable diseases” are defined by rule and include but are not limited to chickenpox, diphtheria, hepatitis A, measles, mumps, pertussis, rubella, Salmonella enterica serotype Typhi infection, scabies, Shiga-toxigenic Escherichia coli (STEC) infection, shigellosis and tuberculosis disease, and may include a communicable stage of hepatitis B infection if, in the opinion of the local health officer, the person poses an unusually high risk to others (e.g., a child that exhibits uncontrollable biting or spitting). Restrictable disease also includes any other communicable disease identified in an order issued by the Oregon Health Authority or the local public health officer as posing a danger to the public’s health. A disease is considered to be a restrictable disease if it is listed in Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 333-019-0010, or it has been designated to be a restrictable disease by Board policy¹ or by the local health administrator, after determining that it presents a significant public health risk in the school setting.
2. “Susceptible” means being at risk of contracting a restrictable disease by virtue of being in one or more categories described in law.
3. “Reportable diseases” means a human reportable disease, infection, microorganism or condition as specified in OAR Chapter 333, Division 18.

Restrictable Diseases

1. An administrator that has reason to suspect that a student has or has been exposed to any restrictable disease for which the student is required to be excluded, shall exclude that student from school and send him/her home. If the disease is reportable, the administrator will report the occurrence to the local health department.
2. The student will be excluded in such instances until such time as the student or the parent or guardian of the student presents a certificate from a physician, a physician assistant licensed under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 677.505-677.525, a nurse practitioner licensed under ORS 678.375-678.390, local health department nurse or school nurse stating that the student does not have or is not a carrier of any restrictable diseases.
3. An administrator will exclude a susceptible student that has been exposed to a restrictable disease that is also a reportable disease unless the local health officer determines that exclusion is not necessary to protect the public’s health, or the local health officer states the diseases is no longer

¹“OAR 333-019-0010(7) Nothing in these rules prohibits a school or children’s facility from adopting more stringent exclusion standards under ORS 433.284.”

communicable to others or that adequate precautions have been taken to minimize the risk of transmission. The administrator may request the local health officer to make a determination as allowed by law.

4. The district may, for the protection of both the student who has a restrictable disease and the exposed student, provide an educational program in an alternative setting. A student may remain in an alternative educational setting until such time as a certificate from a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, local health department nurse or school nurse states that the student does not have or is not a carrier of any restrictable disease, or until such time as a local health officer states that the disease is no longer communicable to others or that adequate precautions have been taken to minimize the risk of transmission. A restrictable disease exclusion for chickenpox, scabies, staphylococcal skin infections, streptococcal infections, diarrhea or vomiting may also be removed by a school nurse or health care provider.
5. More stringent exclusion standards for students from school may be adopted by the local health department or by the district through Board adopted policy.
6. A disease is considered to be a restrictable disease if it is listed in OAR 333-019-0010, or it has been designated to be a restrictable disease through Board policy or by the local health administrator, after determining that it presents a significant public health risk in the school setting.
7. The district's emergency preparedness plan shall address the district's plan with respect to a declared public health emergency at the local or state level.

Reportable Diseases Notification

1. All employees shall comply with all reporting measures adopted by the district and with all rules set forth by the Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division and the local health department.
2. An administrator may seek confirmation and assistance from the local health officer to determine the appropriate district response when the administrator is notified that a student or an employee has been exposed to a restrictable disease that is also a reportable disease.
3. An administrator shall determine other persons with a legitimate educational interest who may be informed of the communicable nature of an individual student's disease, or an employee's communicable disease, within guidelines allowed by law.

Education

1. The administrator or designee shall seek information from the district's school nurse or other appropriate health officials regarding the health needs/hazards of all students and the impact on the educational needs of a student diagnosed with a restrictable disease or exposed to a restrictable disease.
2. The administrator or designee shall, utilizing information obtained above, determine an educational program for such a student and implement the program in an appropriate (i.e., regular or alternative) setting.

3. The administrator or designee shall review the appropriateness of the educational program and the educational setting of each individual student.

Equipment and Training

1. The administrator or designee shall, on a case-by-case basis, determine what equipment and/or supplies are necessary in a particular classroom or other setting in order to prevent disease transmission.
2. The administrator or designee shall consult with the district's school nurse or other appropriate health officials to provide special training in the methods of protection from disease transmission.
3. All district personnel will be instructed annually [by the school health nurse] to use the proper precautions pertaining to blood and body fluid exposure per the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).