

Okanagan College Communicable Disease Prevention Plan

INTRODUCTION

This Communicable Disease Prevention commitment to promote the health and safety of Okanagan College employees, students, and visitors. WorkSafeBC defines a communicable disease as an illness caused by an infectious agent or its toxic product that can be transmitted from one person to another. This plan details the standard control measures used to prevent the spread of communicable diseases in the workplace, along with additional measures that may be implemented under the direction of the Public Health during a period of elevated risk.

Purpose and Alignment with WorkSafeBC and Public Health

The purpose of this Communicable Disease Prevention Plan is to minimize the risk of spreading person to another.

Standard controls are measures used on an ongoing basis to prevent the risks of exposure to communicable diseases in Okanagan College workplaces. Standard controls include:

- Requirements for staff, students, contractors, and visitors to perform personal health checks before entering the workplace and to stay home when sick
- Promotion of effective hand washing procedures and cough and sneeze etiquette
- Provision of hand hygiene facilities with appropriate supplies
- Maintaining clean environments through routine cleaning processes
- Ensuring building ventilation is adequate and ventilation systems are properly maintained and functioning as designed in compliance with OHS Regulation section 4.72
- Promotion and support of employees in receiving vaccinations for communicable diseases

Personal Health Checks

Before employees, students and visitors access any Okanagan College building, they will be required to complete a personal health check. Health check requirements will be communicated out electronically to employees, students, and visitors as required. Health check reminders will be posted at entrances to buildings. The health check involves a self-assessment using the following questions:

Have you been told to isolate by Public Health?

Are you experiencing any of the following new or worsening symptoms:

- o Fever or chills
- o Cough
- o Loss of sense of smell or

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whether to get a COVID-19 test, use the [self-assessment tool](#) or call 8-1-1.

Employees or students who are concerned they may have been exposed to someone with a communicable disease do not need to self-isolate but should monitor themselves closely for symptoms and contact Public Health with any questions or concerns.

Employees should direct any questions or concerns regarding personal health checks to their supervisor. Supervisors can request additional guidance and support from People Services as required.

Hand Hygiene

Hand washing facilities with soap and warm water are available throughout all Okanagan College working and learning spaces. Hand sanitizer stations are also provided in strategic locations such as building entrances and high traffic areas. Hand hygiene facilities are maintained by the Facilities Management Department.

Hand Washing:

It is most effective to wash your hands with warm soap and water for at least 20 seconds:

- When you arrive at work
- Before and after going on a break
- After using the washroom
- After handling cash or other mate



