



University of Connecticut
Division of Student Affairs

Health Services

In line with recommendations from the Department of Education and Centers for Disease Control, Student Health Services will suspend issuing "verification of visit forms" (aka excuse notes) this semester. Please see the email below that was sent to all faculty:

From: Official Announcements - All UConn Faculty [UCONN_FACULTY-L@LISTSERV.UCONN.EDU] On Behalf Of Makowsky, Veronica [veronica.makowsky@UCONN.EDU]

Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2009 8:34 AM

To: UCONN_FACULTY-L@LISTSERV.UCONN.EDU

Subject: [UCONN_FACULTY-L] No "Sick Notes," Please

Dear Colleagues:

Many of you have seen the Center for Disease Control recommendations that students with "swine flu" self-isolate and limit the spread of the flu. The CDC also recommends that we "Do not require a doctor's note to confirm illness or recovery. Doctor's offices may be very busy and may not be able to provide such documentation in a timely way." Our Student Health Services Center is asking Storrs students who are ill, rather than going immediately to SHS, to "call the Student Health Services Advice Nurse at (860) 486-3427. Calling the Advice Nurse first may give you all the self-care information you need without having to visit Student Health Services. The Advice Nurse is available by phone 24 hours a day during the academic year."

Consequently, this semester, Student Health Services will not be providing "Verification of Visit to Health Services" forms for students to take to faculty for missing class due to illness. Students will still be expected to make up work that they missed. There is nothing in the Senate By-Laws or any other regulations of which I am aware that actually requires a "sick note." I would also recommend that we do not ask instructors (this is relevant to regional faculty as well) to require a "doctor's note" from a facility external to UConn for the same reasons. Under the circumstances, your patience and flexibility would be much appreciated as we hope for the best but try to prepare for a range of contingencies.

With best wishes,

Veronica

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