School Absenteeism Reporting

The time it takes to report is very small. The impact is quite large!

All schools are strongly encouraged to report student absenteeism to assist with public health tracking and monitoring of infectious diseases. The NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) uses this school-reported data to track absenteeism and absences due to influenza-like illness (ILI). This helps DHHS monitor and evaluate potential outbreaks or clusters of disease in local communities.

There is no enrollment and participation takes less than one minute to complete via an online reporting tool. Established in 2009, this simple and easy-to-use tool provides DHHS with a student absenteeism count and the number of students absent due to influenza-like illnesses. You can even track your school’s data to assist in determining your baseline.

For schools collecting absenteeism information and not absenteeism due to ILI, this information is still valuable. Schools can simply enter the number “0” or check the box indicating when data are not available.

Together we help schools, students, parents and communities.

To help you in your efforts to keep students and staff healthy, visit the DHHS website for:

- a school nurse toolkit that includes:
  - Posters: ‘Cover Your Cough’, ‘Hand Washing for Kids’
  - Health Information: parent letter, school guidance, guides, and more
- absenteeism information to track ILI, mapped by county and posted weekly

We rely on all schools to report this important information.
Thank you for serving in a key role in helping the people of New Hampshire have optimal health!

Questions? We are here to help. Contact Kenneth Dufault at the DHHS Division of Public Health Services, Bureau of Infectious Disease Control, at 603-271-5165 or kenneth.dufault@dhhs.nh.gov.