

**Communicable Disease Epidemiology
and Immunization Section**

401 5th Avenue, Suite 1250
Seattle, WA 98104

206-296-4774 Fax 206-296-4803

TTY Relay: 711

www.kingcounty.gov/health

September 29, 2025

Dear School Nurses and Administrators,

Since the beginning of the year, measles outbreaks have been reported in multiple states, raising concerns about continued spread. This is a critical reminder of the importance of measles vaccination and rapid response to possible cases to minimize transmission and protect the health of students and staff. Take time now to review your school's communicable disease management plan and work with the school administrator to ensure you are prepared if a case of measles is identified at your school.

Be prepared before a case occurs:

- Review measles immunity status of all students and create a non-immune/susceptible list
- Confirm with staff and volunteers that they have received MMR vaccine or have immunity to measles
 - Encourage your HR department to communicate to staff that they will need to be prepared to provide proof of measles immunity
- Recommend MMR vaccine for students and staff who are [non-immune/susceptible](#).
 - Children under 19 years can get routine immunizations for free. Find a vaccine clinic online [here](#).
- Inform susceptible staff and families of susceptible students that they will be excluded from school for 21 days if a case of measles occurs in your school.
- Create a plan for continuing learning during an investigation and prepare to exclude non-immune/susceptible students, staff and volunteers.
- Know measles signs and symptoms:
 - [Measles Questions and Answers Information About the Disease and Vaccines](#)
 - [Measles Resources for Schools, Workplaces, Healthcare, and Organizations](#)
- Report suspected cases of measles to Public Health at (206) 296-4774

Take action if there has been a person with measles at your school:

- Contact Public Health at (206) 296-4774 if someone with measles may have been at your school.
- Identify potentially exposed students, staff, volunteers and visitors by reviewing attendance and visitor records.
- Provide Public Health with a list of exposed susceptible students, staff, visitors and volunteers who were at the school while the person with measles was in attendance.
- Follow [Public Health's guidelines](#) for exposed students, staff, visitors and volunteers according to [proof of immunity status](#).

- Exclude students and staff without evidence of immunity.

Review Measles Immunity and Vaccination Recommendations

- [Evidence of Immunity recommendations](#)
- [Measles Prevention and Control Implementation](#)

Additional Resources

- For families needing health insurance or a health care provider, refer to: Community Health Access Program (CHAP): kingcounty.gov/chap, 1-800-756-5437.
- [Preparing and Responding to Measles: Checklist for K-12 Schools](#)
- [Measles Preparedness for Schools](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions about Measles](#)

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric J. Chow', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eric J. Chow, MD, MS, MPH, FACP, FAAP, FIDSA
Chief, Communicable Disease Epidemiology and Immunization Section
Public Health – Seattle & King County