

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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TO: College and University Administrators and Health Center Staff

FROM: Lynn Sosa, MD, Acting State Epidemiologist

DATE: August 29, 2022

SUBJECT: Monkeypox Information Update

We want to provide you with updated information about monkeypox and the precautions that you can take to protect your campus community. CDC published a new webpage for [Institutions of Higher Education](#) with monkeypox-related resources for students, health centers, and administrators and staff.

As of August 23, 2022, there have been 84 cases of monkeypox in Connecticut. In Connecticut, most people with monkeypox have been male and between the ages of 20-50 years old.

We encourage you to plan for monkeypox testing and responding to a monkeypox diagnosis in your community. If a student or staff person has a **new or unexplained rash or symptoms** consistent with monkeypox, they should seek medical care from a healthcare provider. Laboratory testing for monkeypox is available from the State Public Health Laboratory and five commercial laboratories. Instructions for submission of specimens to the State Public Health Laboratory are available [online](#). If you will not offer testing on campus, we encourage you to identify local providers to which you can refer students or staff.

Please reach out to your Local Health Department/District if you identify possible or confirmed monkeypox cases in your community. Persons diagnosed with monkeypox should isolate and avoid close contact with others until the rash has healed and a new layer of skin has formed. CDC recently updated guidance on [Considerations for Reducing Monkeypox Transmission in Congregate Living Settings](#). People who are exposed to a person with monkeypox and do not have symptoms of monkeypox can continue routine activities.

The CDC recommends monkeypox [vaccination](#) for people who have been exposed to monkeypox and for those who are more likely to contract monkeypox. More information about eligibility criteria and a list of clinics offering vaccination in Connecticut is available [here](#). If you are interested in administering vaccine on your campus, please email dph.monkeypox@ct.gov.

The CDC's [What You Need to Know about Monkeypox if You are a Teen or Young Adult](#) is a good resource to educate your communities about monkeypox. Please visit www.ct.gov/dph/monkeypox for additional monkeypox information.

Thank you for your efforts to support a healthy learning environment. We will continue to share monkeypox information with you as it becomes available.



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