



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION III  
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF ANGELES CITY

16 Oct 2025

**DIVISION MEMORANDUM**

No. 350 , s. 2025

**GUIDANCE ON MODALITY SHIFTS DUE TO INFLUENZA AND INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESSES (ILIS)**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
Chiefs, CID and SGOD  
Public Schools District Supervisors  
School Heads of Public Elementary Schools  
All Concerned

1. In response to the increasing incidence of Influenza and Influenza-like Illnesses (ILIs) in school settings, and in line with public health safety protocols, this memorandum provides guidelines for instituting timely and appropriate modality shifts to minimize transmission and ensure the continuity of learning while protecting the health of students and personnel.

2. The following guidelines are informed by the recommendations of the Department of Health (DOH), as discussed during the emergency meeting of all Medical Officers and Nurse Representatives held on October 15, 2025, and aim to standardize response measures across schools:

a. Schools are required to monitor class and school-wide absenteeism and initiate modality shifts based on the following thresholds:

**Classroom-Level Threshold**

- A class that records an absentee rate of **10%** or more due to Influenza or ILIs shall shift to an **alternative learning modality** for two **(2)** calendar days.
- The modality shift is to be triggered the day after the **10%** absenteeism rate is reached.

**School-Wide Threshold**

- A school that reports an overall absenteeism rate of more than **4%** due to Influenza or ILIs for two **(2)** consecutive days, with the second day's absentee rate being equal to or higher than the first, shall institute a **school-wide modality shift** for seven **(7)** calendar days.

**Note:** Absenteeism due to other causes not related to influenza or ILIs should not be counted toward these thresholds.



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b. Schools that implement either classroom-level or school-wide modality shifts are strongly advised to inform their respective **Local Epidemiology and Surveillance Units (LESUs)** to enable appropriate investigation and guidance. This collaboration ensures a sound, science-based public health response. A full directory of LESUs is accessible at: [bit.ly/DOHDirectoryLESU2023](https://bit.ly/DOHDirectoryLESU2023).

c. The Department of Health's **School Early Warning System (SEWS)** must be utilized by all schools. This system encourages the timely reporting of:

- Clusters of illnesses
- Cases of unusual health events
- Health-related absences that appear abnormal or alarming

d. School heads are instructed to begin immediate compliance with SEWS protocols.

e. School heads are expected to:

1. Designate a health monitoring point person (e.g., School Nurse, Health Coordinator);
2. Ensure accurate daily tracking of student absenteeism with specific cause documentation;
3. Coordinate with Division and Regional Offices for technical assistance;
4. Maintain a communication line with LESUs.

f. The Division Office shall monitor compliance and provide support to schools as needed.

3. For information, guidance, and strict compliance.

**ENGR. EDGARD C. DOMINGO, PhD, CESO V**  
Schools Division Superintendent

References: Republic Act No. 11332 – *Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act*

Department of Health (DOH) Guidelines

Department of Education (DepEd) Order No. 21, s. 2015 – *Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Coordination and Information Management Protocol*



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To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:

HEALTH AND SAFETY      GUIDELINES

SGOD/CES/October 16, 2025