

Communicable Diseases Leave

Where an eligible employee has contracted a specified communicable disease, it is in the interests of that employee, fellow colleagues and students that the employee absents themselves from duty.

School based employees who contract a communicable disease or illness (as specified) are to remain away from work, and granted leave with pay, without affecting their personal leave entitlements.

Communicable Diseases Leave entitlements are contained in the following Awards:

- For Teaching Staff including Principals - [Teaching \(Tasmanian Public Sector\) Award](#)
- For School Support Staff , VET Student Assistants, Participation Assistants and Allied Health Professionals working within schools - [Tasmanian State Service Award](#)
- For Facility Attendants – [Facility Attendants \(Tasmanian State Service\) Award](#)

The Department has extended this entitlement to other school based employees including Laboratory Technicians, school administration staff, and school and college based Library Technicians.

The list of specified communicable diseases or illnesses to which this leave applies can be found on the [Communicable Diseases – Specified List](#). The period of time for which an employee who has contracted such a disease and is required to be absent from duty is also specified.

Please refer to the delegations relating to the specification of communicable diseases and determining the relevant period for which a permanent or fixed-term employee has to absent themselves from duty.

All requests for communicable diseases leave must be submitted on a [Leave Application Form](#) or via [ESS](#) accompanied by a medical certificate from a medical practitioner. The medical certificate must specify the name of the communicable disease.

Conditions

Please note:

- influenza means the true infection and not what is commonly called "the flu". Communicable diseases leave will only be granted if the medical certificate stipulates the medical condition is 'influenza'. gastroenteritis (gastro) is only considered a communicable disease if it is viral, therefore communicable diseases leave will only be granted if the medical certificate stipulates the medical condition is 'viral gastroenteritis'.
- coronavirus (COVID-19) has different exclusion periods depending on the severity of the symptoms. Please see the [Returning to the workplace after recovering from a positive COVID-19 test Infosheet](#) for further information.

Contact Details

For further information in relation to the above please contact HR Payroll via e-mail:

HRPayroll@education.tas.gov.au.

Associated Documents and Materials

[Returning to the workplace after recovering from a positive COVID-19 test Infosheet](#)

[HR Delegations & Administrative Authorities \(HR D & AA\)](#)

[Leave Application Form](#)

[Communicable Diseases – Specified List](#)

[Teaching \(Tasmanian Public Sector\) Award](#)

[Tasmanian State Service Award](#)

[Facility Attendants \(Tasmanian State Service\) Award](#)