Emergency Preparedness Planning Considerations* for College Health Centers Regarding Ebola Virus Disease

1. Is your campus emergency response plan up to date so it can be activated if needed to respond to a case of Ebola on campus or in the local community? Is it coordinated with the local public health department on a community response to a case of Ebola?

2. Does your campus have a communications plan and team in place to respond to the communications need if a case were to emerge on campus, in the community, or at another institution? Is the communications plan coordinated with the local community so that your campus would be informed if a case emerges in the community, allowing communication to students and parents?

3. If the public health department orders a quarantine for a high risk exposure, does the campus have a location and plan to provide food and clothing to a quarantined person? Does the campus have a mechanism (qualified contractor) in place to dispose of waste?

4. Is the student health center screening all patients for travel in the past 21 days? Are there plans in place to quickly respond to an ill student with a travel history from an Ebola affected area? What about other emerging pathogens?

5. Is there a mechanism to identify and contact students, faculty, and staff who are returning to campus from an Ebola affected area and refer appropriately to the public health department for monitoring?

6. Who is responsible for monitoring individual and group institutional travelers? Is there a policy and/or mechanism in place to restrict travel based on the CDC travel warning?

* These questions are offered as just some of the planning considerations that should be contemplated as college health professionals increase vigilance regarding the emerging public health challenge of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). This list is not intended as an exhaustive representation of all planning considerations, nor does it replace or supersede any official guidance from national, state or local public health authorities. Readers are encouraged to remain informed about EVD through the various mechanisms used by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as other state and local public health agencies.