



## Alumni and Parent Engagement <parents@lclark.edu>

Pertussis Cases on CAS Campus

10.30.24

Dear Parents,

The following message was shared with the campus community earlier today. Please reply to [parents@lclark.edu](mailto:parents@lclark.edu) with any questions.



## L&C Health Notice <lc-bulletin@lclark.edu>

Since October 10, 2024, three students on the CAS campus have been diagnosed with pertussis, also known as “whooping cough.” The students are being treated with antibiotics, and their roommates and others who have been in close proximity to them are being monitored and tested and treated if symptomatic.

[Pertussis](#) is a highly contagious respiratory bacterial infection. While it can cause life-threatening complications in babies and young children, it is usually relatively mild in adolescents and adults.

We are diligently following public health guidelines and working with Multnomah County health officials to keep the outbreak contained. We urge you to keep yourself and others safe by taking the following precautions:

- **Monitor for symptoms.** Initial symptoms of pertussis include runny nose, sneezing, mild fever, and cough. If you develop any of these symptoms, **wear a mask**. Students should contact the [Student Health Center](#), call the after-hours nurse consultation line (1-877-617-9531), or seek evaluation at an urgent care. Faculty and staff should contact their health care provider or visit urgent care.
- **Wash your hands often.**
- **Check your vaccination status.** The effectiveness of the pertussis vaccine (DTaP and Tdap) wanes over time. If you have not had a Tdap vaccine since childhood, you may want to get a booster shot. Boosters may be available for students at the Student Health Center and are also readily available at most local pharmacies.

We will continue to work with officials from Multnomah County to monitor this situation closely, and will keep the community informed if the situation changes and any additional precautions become necessary. Thank you for your help in keeping our campus safe and healthy.