

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
Office of the Provost

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Dear Members of the Harvard Community:

Harvard University has been monitoring the reports of outbreaks of the Ebola virus disease in the West African nations of Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia, and of cases of Ebola infection in nearby Nigeria.

In order to protect the health and safety of our community members at home and abroad, and in accordance with recent guidance from the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), we have asked all Harvard students, faculty and staff to avoid non-essential travel to Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia. If you need safety and security advice for travel abroad, please contact [Global Support Services](#). As always, enter your international travel plans in the Harvard Travel Registry at www.traveltools.harvard.edu; doing so will facilitate your access to emergency help, should you need it.

We are contacting everyone in the Harvard community known to have recently visited these West African countries, offering guidance and support. However, there are likely students, faculty or staff whose travel to the region is unknown to us. **If you have been in Sierra Leone, Guinea, Liberia or Nigeria in the past four weeks and have not already been in contact with Harvard University Health Services (HUHS), please contact HUHS by phone or email (617-495-2034 or 617-851-8480, huhs@harvard.edu) a few days before you plan to return to campus.** HUHS will arrange a brief telephone assessment to help determine next steps before you return to campus.

If you recently visited Western Africa, you should be aware that during the incubation period for Ebola virus disease, which is estimated to last for 2-21 days, symptoms may not be present. For more information on the disease, including symptoms and tips to prevent transmission, please go to the [HUHS website](#).

HUHS, in coordination with faculty and staff experts across the University, will continue to monitor this evolving situation as part of our continuing efforts to safeguard the welfare of all Harvard community members. We wish you all a safe and healthy summer.

Sincerely,

Alan M. Garber
Provost

Paul Barreira
Director of Harvard University Health Services