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## MEMORANDUM

Date: September 17, 2009  
To: Pandemic Liaisons  
From: Laura M. King, Vice Chancellor – Chief Financial Officer *LMK*  
Subject: H1N1 – Requests for Volunteers

The purpose of this memorandum is to address questions from campuses on volunteer options for their students and staff, particularly in nursing or other health-related fields. We are aware that some local hospitals have asked our nursing programs about volunteer options in case of an emergency.

The Minnesota Department of Health has created a volunteer registry called the Minnesota Responds Medical Reserve Corps. Information about the corps, including how to apply, is available at <https://www.mnresponds.org/index.php>.

The corps accepts medical and non-medical professionals (licensed and non-licensed), including students. If mobilized by the Commissioner of Health, corps volunteers receive liability and workers' compensation protection through the state. You may make this information available to your students and staff. The decision to volunteer, of course, is up to them.

You may also receive requests for nursing students to volunteer at a local hospital or health-related facility. We believe that the best practice is to refer them to the medical reserve corps referenced above. Hospitals and other entities can request assistance from the corps and this gives potential student and staff volunteers the most protection. Please contact Don Beckering, State Director, Fire EMS Safety, or the Office of General Counsel if you have questions about these issues.

c: System all hazards Steering Committee  
Cabinet