



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE DECLARATION OF
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DATED APRIL 24, 2023**

- WHEREAS, the Declaration of Public Health Emergency was issued April 24, 2023 and is currently in effect in the Territory of American Samoa; and
- WHEREAS, the Director of Health has confirmed that there is an outbreak of Measles in American Samoa, with 2 laboratory confirmed case and 52 suspected/probable cases
- WHEREAS, vaccination coverage has increased to 97.2% in elementary schools and 97.9% in high schools but is 84.9% in early childhood education and 52.9% in daycare centers; and
- WHEREAS, after peaks of new suspected/probable cases on April 21 and April 24, the rate of new suspected cases has dropped despite active ongoing surveillance; and
- WHEREAS, lab confirmation has returned 26 results that were negative for measles; and
- WHEREAS, the Department of Health has on-hand 5,889 pediatric doses and 2000 adult doses of the vaccine; and
- WHEREAS, the Department of Health, in coordination with other agencies, is capable of controlling and containing the spread of measles in American Samoa;
- WHEREAS, the Territory of American Samoa continues to adapt our response to the measles outbreak.

NOW THEREFORE, I, TALAUEGA E. V. ALE, Acting Governor of American Samoa, Amend the Declaration of Public Health Emergency dated April 24, 2023 (herein "Declaration"):

Paragraph 1 on **Schools** is amended to state the following:

1. Schools

All public and private elementary schools, high schools and colleges may re-open for in-person classes starting May 1, 2023. All students, teachers and support staff attending in-person learning,

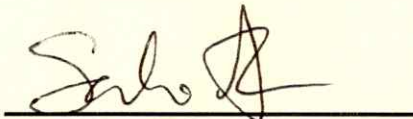
*First Amendment 4/24/23 Declaration of Public Health Emergency
Effective May 1, 2023*

must be fully vaccinated with the MMR Vaccine.¹ If required, schools will utilize online/distance learning, and all authorities, departments and offices shall support the Department of Education to ensure that students, when required, have access to online/distance learning.

All other provisions of the Declaration unless modified or replaced in this First Amendment of the Declaration, remain in full force and effect.

This First Amendment of the Declaration is effective immediately. It shall expire May 24, 2023 unless otherwise provided.

Dated: May 1, 2023



TALAUEGA E. V. ALE
ACTING GOVERNOR OF AMERICAN SAMOA

¹ For the purposes of this declaration, "full vaccination" means that the person has received two doses of MMR vaccine, separated by at least 28 days. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/mmr/public/index.html>