

U.S. Embassy Freetown, Sierra Leone
Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Update on Viral Hemorrhagic Fever in Guinea
April 1, 2014

The U.S. Embassy in Freetown reports to U.S. citizens that there are no confirmed victims of Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever in Sierra Leone. However, there are some cases under investigation. Borders remain open with increased surveillance measures.

Ebola is contracted through contact with blood and body fluids or contaminated articles. Symptoms may appear anywhere from 2 to 21 days after exposure to Ebola virus, though 8-10 days is most common.

A person suffering from Ebola presents with a sudden onset of high fever with any of the following: vomiting, diarrhea, headache, vomits blood, has joint or muscle pains, bleeds through the body openings (eyes, nose, gums, ears, and anus) and has reduced urine. Although the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and WHO have no current travel restrictions in place, it is prudent to avoid funerals at this time. For more information on Ebola hemorrhagic fever, please visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Sierra Leone enroll in the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](http://www.Travel.State.Gov) at www.Travel.State.Gov. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Contact the U.S. embassy for up-to-date information on travel restrictions by visiting the [U.S. Embassy Freetown](http://www.EmbassyFreetown.gov) website. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](http://www.State.gov), where you can find the current [Worldwide Caution](#), [Travel Warnings](#), [Travel Alerts](#), and [Country Specific Information](#). If you don't have internet access, you can get current information on safety and security by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or for callers from other countries, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Also follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

The U.S. Embassy in Freetown is located at Leicester Square, Regent. If you have questions or concerns about safety or related issues, contact the consular section at the Embassy by sending an email to consularfreetown@state.gov or calling 232(76) 515-000 or 076-515-000. For after- hours emergencies, please call Tel: 232-(76) 515-000 or 076-515-000.