

PIEDMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE



POLICY

POLICY NUMBER: 8-7-1040

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TITLE: Contagious Diseases, Infections, and Pandemic

RELATED POLICY AND PROCEDURES: 59-53-20 of the SC Code of Laws, as amended, The Emergency Health Powers Act, SC Code Ann. §44-4-100 (also referred to as the SC Homeland Security Act) 8-7-1040.1 Contagious Diseases, Infections and Pandemic

DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY: Business and Finance and Student Affairs and Communications

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| <u>July 16, 2013</u> | <u>February 15, 2022</u> | <u>February 15, 2022</u> |
| Date Approved by Area Commission | Date of Last Review | Date of Last Revision |

It is the policy of Piedmont Technical College that employees and students with a contagious and/or infectious disease may continue their active employment or enrollment in accordance with the Americans with Disability Act as long as they are able to perform essential job functions and/or meet acceptable academic performance standards, and pose no potential or actual threat to the safety of themselves or others.

Piedmont Technical College, working in concert with the South Carolina Department for Health and Environmental Control and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reserves the right to exclude a person with a contagious and/or infectious disease from the facilities, programs or functions if it is found, that based on a medical determination, such restriction is necessary for the welfare of the person who has the disease and/or the welfare of others.

Confidentiality of information and communications relating to a contagious and/or infectious disease will be maintained in accordance with applicable law regarding any aspect of actual or suspected contagious or infectious disease situation.

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A contagious disease is an infectious disease that can be transmitted from person to person, animal to person, or insect to person. Infectious disease is a disease caused by a living organism or virus. An infectious disease may, or may not, be transmissible from person to person, animal to person, or insect to person.

Contagious and infectious diseases include, but are not limited to, measles, Ebola, influenza, viral hepatitis-A (infectious hepatitis), viral hepatitis-B (serum hepatitis), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV infection), Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), AIDS-Related Complex (ARC), leprosy, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS, MERS, and COVID-19) and tuberculosis. The College may choose to broaden this list at its discretion based on information received through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

A pandemic is an epidemic of infectious disease that is spread through human populations across a large region; for instance, a city, state, continent, or even worldwide. Should a pandemic occur, the College President will work in concert with local fire, rescue, and emergency medical services as well as the Department for Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) and the CDC to determine the need to evacuate/close a facility in the interest of personal safety₁ and, if necessary, to establish any quarantine or containment protocols.

The College has developed PTC Procedure 8-7-1040.1 Contagious Diseases and Infections and Pandemic, to follow in the event of a contagious/infectious disease or pandemic.