TITLE: Contagious Disease, Infections and Pandemic

RELATED POLICY AND PROCEDURES: 8-7-1040 Contagious Disease, Infections and Pandemic

DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY: Business and Finance and Student Affairs

Administrative Responsibilities
It is the responsibility of the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and the Director of Human Resources to review and revise this procedure.

Definition

A. Contagious Disease: an infectious disease that can be transmitted from person to person, animal to person, or insect to person.

B. Infectious Disease: a disease caused by a living organism or virus. An infectious disease may or may not be transmitted to others.

C. Pandemic: an epidemic of infectious disease that is spread through populations across a large region: for instance a city, state, continent or even worldwide.

Contagious and Infectious Diseases-For the purposes of this procedure, communicable disease shall include, but not be limited to:

- Influenza
- Viral hepatitis-A
- Viral Hepatitis-B
- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)
- Acquired immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
- AIDS Related Complex
- Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
Tuberculosis
Ebola
Chicken Pox
Ringworm
German Measles
Measles
Whooping Cough
Scabies
Trachoma, Granulated lids
Impetigo
Acute conjunctivitis
Lice

Procedure

A. Confidentiality
Under all circumstances, the individual’s right of privacy will be protected. Only those individuals who are directly involved with the student(s) or employee’s daily activities will be notified concerning the presence of a communicable disease.

B. Pandemic
Piedmont Technical College has a Hazardous Spills and Infectious Disease Committee, co-chaired by the Director of Campus Police & Security and the Dean of Health Science. This committee developed a Pandemic Response Plan for the college to consult in case of a pandemic. Should a pandemic occur, the College President will work in concert with the PTC committee, local fire, rescue, and emergency medical services as well as the Department for Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to determine the need to evacuate/close the college in the interest of personal safety and, if necessary, to establish any quarantine or containment protocols.

C. Students

1. Student’s Responsibility
If any student has knowledge of having a contagious or infectious disease or having been exposed to a contagious or infectious disease, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
2. Employee Responsibility
   If an employee suspects a student of having a health condition which could possibly be communicated to others, the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs should be notified immediately. The student may be excluded from the campus until an appropriate assessment of the student's medical condition can be made.

3. Assessment of Students
   a. The assessment of a student with a suspected contagious or infectious disease and the determination of a student's ability to remain at school will be made by the President after a preliminary consultation with the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, based upon recommendation from local health authorities.

   b. If the President feels that the situation poses a real threat to the College or the community at large, he will notify the Public Health Authority of all known details and seek their advice and counsel.

   c. Under provision of South Carolina Code 44-29-200, the President will prohibit the attendance of any student until a satisfactory certificate is obtained from one or more licensed physicians and the Public Health Authority stating that such attendance is no longer a risk to others at the College.

D. Employees

1. If an employee has knowledge of having a contagious or infectious disease or having been exposed to a contagious or infectious disease, it is the responsibility of the employee to notify the Director of Human Resources.

2. The employee may be excluded from the working until an appropriate assessment of the employee’s medical condition can be made.

3. If the President feels that the situation poses a real threat to the college or the community at large, he will notify the Public Health Authority of all known details and seek their advice and counsel.

4. Under provision of South Carolina Code 44-29-200, the President will prohibit the attendance of any employee until a satisfactory certificate is obtained from one or more licensed physicians and the Public Health Authority stating that such attendance is no longer a risk to others at the College.