7.16 Communicable Diseases

**Last Revised:** October 2011

**Policy:** Students infected with a communicable disease will not be excluded from enrollment or restricted in their access to College services or facilities, unless medically-based judgments in individual cases establish that exclusion or restriction is necessary for the welfare of other members of the institution.

**Purpose/Definitions:**
Communicable disease is an illness resulting from an infectious agent or its toxic products being transmitted directly or indirectly to a person from an infected person or animal through the agency of an intermediate animal, host, or vector, or through the inanimate environment. [N.C.G.S. 130A-2(1c)]

Communicable diseases include, but are limited to, influenza, tuberculosis, conjunctivitis, infectious mononucleosis, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and AIDS related complex (ARC), Hepatitis-A (infectious hepatitis), Hepatitis-B (serum hepatitis) meningitis, sexually transmitted diseases, measles, chickenpox, and whooping cough. PCC may choose to broaden this definition in accordance with information received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Information related to communicable diseases, warning signs, and protective measures are available from the Person or Caswell County Health Department, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

**Approval Authority/Monitoring Authority:** Piedmont Community College’s Board of Trustees has approval authority for this policy. The Vice President, Instruction and Student Development and the Vice President, Continuing Education have monitoring authority.

**Procedure:**
The College will not unlawfully discriminate in policy or practice and will comply with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). PCC reserves the right to exclude a person with a communicable disease from employment, programs, and functions if the College finds that, based on a medical determination, such restriction is necessary for the welfare of the person who has the communicable disease and/or the welfare of others within the College.

Any College student who knows or has reasonable basis for believing that he or she is infected with a communicable disease has the responsibility to report this fact, on a confidential basis, to the Vice President, Instruction and Student Development for a curriculum student or to the Vice President, Continuing Education for a continuing education student.

Any College student who knows or has reasonable basis for believing that he or she is infected, must seek expert advice about their health circumstances and is obligated, ethically and legally, to conduct himself or herself responsibly in accordance with such knowledge for the protection of other members of the community.
Piedmont Community College will publicize and carefully observe the safety guidelines published by OSHA for handling of blood and other body fluids and secretions in all health care programs on campus and in other college contexts in which such fluids or secretions may be encountered. Copies of the guidelines are in the offices of the Vice President, Instruction and Student Development; Vice President, Continuing Education; and the Personnel Office.

**Legal Citation:** N.C.G.S. 130A-2(1c)

**History:** Effective October 1987; Revised July 1992, October 2011