HEALTH REQUIREMENTS & SERVICES: COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

I. BACKGROUND and/or LEGAL REFERENCE

Texas Education Code 51.919 & 51.9191. See also Reg 891, Employment Requirements and Restrictions.

II. POLICY

A. Definition

Communicable diseases include, but are not limited to, measles, influenza, viral hepatitis-A (infectious hepatitis), viral hepatitis-B (serum hepatitis), bacterial meningitis, and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV infection).

B. Basis for Action

The College's decisions involving persons who have communicable diseases shall be based on current and well informed medical judgments concerning the disease, the risks of transmitting the illness to others, the symptoms and special circumstances of each individual who has a communicable disease. The State of Texas laws for institutions of higher education and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Policies will also be consulted to determine the appropriate course of action.

C. Nondiscrimination

The College shall not discriminate in enrollment against any student solely on the ground that the student has a communicable disease. Members of the student body of the College shall not be denied access to College facilities or campus activities solely on the ground that they have a communicable disease. However, the College reserves the right to exclude a person with a communicable disease from College facilities, programs, and functions if the College makes a medically based determination that the restriction is necessary for the welfare of the person who has the communicable disease and/or the welfare of the other members of the College community.

D. Privacy

The College shall comply with all pertinent statutes and regulations which protect the privacy of persons in the College community who have a communicable disease. The College shall ensure that procedural safeguards sufficient to maintain the strictest confidence about persons who have a communicable disease are in effect in all offices of the College.

E. Education

The College shall make available materials and resources regarding communicable diseases as delineated by the Texas Education Code Chapter 51.

(POLICY APPROVAL: 10-16-89, Board of Trustees, 7-15-14, amended)

III. PROCEDURES

A. The Vice President of Student Services, or designee, is responsible for ensuring compliance with Texas Education Code Chapter 51 for students. The Office of Human Resources is responsible for ensuring compliance with Texas Education Code Chapter 51 for all college employees.