



Section: PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES
Title: HIV INFECTION
Adopted: September 21, 2004
Revised:

	441. HIV INFECTION	
1. Purpose	<p>The Joint Operating Committee is committed to providing a safe, healthy environment for its students and employees. The purpose of this policy shall be to safeguard the health and well-being of students and employees while protecting the rights of the individual.</p> <p>This policy is based on current evidence that the HIV virus is not normally transmissible by infected individuals within the school setting, except as noted in this policy.</p>	
2. Definitions	<p>HIV infection – Refers to the disease caused by the HIV or human immunodeficiency virus.</p> <p>AIDS – Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.</p> <p>CDCP – United States Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.</p> <p>Infected employee – Refers to employees diagnosed as having the HIV virus, including those who are asymptomatic.</p>	
3. Authority	<p>This policy shall apply to all employees in all programs conducted by the school (center.)</p> <p>The Joint Operating Committee directs that the established policies and procedures that relate to illnesses among employees shall also apply to infected employees.</p> <p>The Joint Operating Committee shall not require route-screening tests for HIV infection in the school setting, nor will such tests be a condition for employment.</p>	<p>SC 1850.1</p> <p>35 P.S. 7601 et seq.</p>
4. Delegation of Responsibility	<p>The Administrative Director or designee shall be responsible for handling and releasing information concerning infected employees.</p> <p>All employees shall maintain a respectful working climate and shall not participate in physical or verbal harassment of any individual or group, including infected employees.</p> <p>All employees shall be required to consistently follow infection control/universal precautions in all settings and at all times. Employees shall notify the school nurse of all incidents of exposure to bodily fluids.</p> <p>Building administrators shall notify employees, students and parents/guardians about current Joint Operating Committee policies concerning HIV infection and shall provide reasonable opportunities to discuss the policy and related concerns.</p>	

	441. HIV INFECTION	
5. Guidelines	<p>Infected employees whose employment is interrupted or terminated shall be entitled to available medical leave and medical disability benefits. Such employees shall be informed by the appropriate administrator of benefits, leave and alternatives available to them through state and federal laws, Joint Operating Committee policies, the collective bargaining agreement and the retirement system.</p> <p><u>Confidentiality</u> Employees with knowledge of an infected employee’s condition shall not disclose that information without prior written consent of the employee, consistent with the requirements of the Pennsylvania Confidentiality of HIV-Related Information Act.</p> <p><u>Infection Control</u> Universal precautions shall be followed for exposure to bodily fluids. Employees shall treat all body fluids as hazardous and follow universal precautions.</p> <p>The school (center) shall maintain reasonably accessible equipment and supplies necessary for infection control.</p> <p><u>Staff Development</u> All employees shall participate in a planned HIV education program.</p> <p>Designated employees shall receive additional, specialized training appropriate to their positions and responsibilities.</p> <p><u>References:</u> School Code – 24 P.S. Sec 1850.1 PA Confidentiality of HIV – Related Information Act – 35 P.S. 7607 Americans With Disabilities Act – 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq. Family and Medical Leave Act – 29 U.S.C. Sec. 2601 et seq.</p>	<p>42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq. 29 U.S.C. Sec. 2601 et seq.</p> <p>25 P.S. 7607</p>