

DEPARTMENTAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE

TITLE: Infectious Diseases

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 6, 2020

CANCELLATION: None

CATEGORY: Public Health

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: Office of Health Services

POLICY STATEMENT

It is the intent of Delgado Community College to comply with all applicable federal and state laws in connection with an individual who contracts an infectious disease. Faculty, staff, students, and visitors are encouraged to immediately report information related to the potential occurrence of an infectious disease within the College community. In the event of an infectious disease in the College community, the College will review and monitor the situation on a case-by-case basis and work with local, state and federal authorities, as necessary, to determine the appropriate course of action.

PROCEDURES & SPECIFIC INFORMATION

1. Purpose

To provide guidelines and procedures for preventing the spread or outbreak of communicable or infectious diseases and will be interpreted and administered in order to protect the health and well-being of the College community.

2. Scope and Authority

This policy applies to all faculty, staff, students and visitors on all the College's campuses and sites. This policy is specifically in reference to Infectious Diseases as defined as a disease of humans or animals resulting from an infection or an illness due to exposure to a specific disease agent that arises through transmission of that disease agent, either directly or indirectly, including but not limited to, hepatitis A, tuberculosis, Rubella, chicken pox, influenza, measles, meningitis and others as may be identified by the Centers for Disease Control and the Louisiana Department of Health.

3. Guidelines for Infectious Diseases

As permitted by law, Delgado Community College may take steps to identify and address potential infectious diseases, including but not limited to the following:

1. Inquire about an individual's medical condition;
2. Require an individual who has contracted an infectious disease to submit an appropriate healthcare provider's statement of health prior to returning to the College, which may include proof of appropriate vaccination;
3. Require an individual to submit to an appropriate medical evaluation from an appropriate healthcare provider;
4. Consult with the individual's healthcare provider (with appropriate consent) regarding the infectious disease;
5. Consult with an appropriate healthcare provider and such other persons or resources, including the public health department, to assist in determining the appropriate course of action;
6. Institute quarantine or isolation protocol;
7. Restrict travel to high-risk locations;
8. Exclude individuals who are infected or at risk of infection from the classroom, workplace or other College activities (employees will be subject to the College's policies, procedures and other requirements for requesting/receiving benefits and leaves of absence);
9. Maintain the confidentiality of and/or disclose the identity and other information regarding the infectious disease as may be required by law;
10. Follow guidance or directives from local, state or federal authorities;
11. Offer accommodations to employees and students who are displaced from their regularly scheduled College events and/or activities;
12. Activate College Emergency Operations to consider measures such as social distancing, College closure, cleaning procedures, travel monitoring, class suspension, etc.; and/or
13. Implement other temporary action(s) that is reasonably required to prevent unacceptable risk of exposure until the College is able to consult with an appropriate healthcare provider or local, state or federal authorities.
14. Develop and initiate immediate directives, guidelines and procedures for preventing the spread or outbreak of infectious outbreaks in accordance with guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and the Louisiana Department of Health.

Review Process: Ad Hoc Committee on Infectious Diseases Policy 3/6/2020

Approval: Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs 3/6/2020