



**Bridgewater State University
Athletic Training Program
Communicable Disease Policy**

The purpose of the Bridgewater State University Athletic Training Program (ATP) Communicable Disease Policy is to protect the health and safety of all parties. The purpose of this policy is to ensure the welfare of the students enrolled within this academic program in addition to patients BSU ATP students may come in contact with during their clinical educational experiences. This policy is designed to provide athletic training students, Clinical Instructors (CIs), Approved Clinical Instructors (ACIs) and athletic training faculty with a plan to assist in the management of students with infectious diseases as defined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). This policy was developed using the recommendations established by the CDC for health care workers (<http://www.cdc.gov>).

What are Communicable Diseases?

A communicable disease is a disease that can be transmitted from one person to another. There are four main types of transmission including: direct physical contact; air (through a cough, sneeze or other particulates inhaled); a vehicle (ingested or injected); and a vector (via animals or insects).

Communicable Diseases Cited by the CDC:

Bloodborne pathogens	Diarrheal diseases	Hepatitis viruses
Measles	Meningococcal infections	Mumps
Pediculosis	Pertussis	Tuberculosis
Scabies	Streptococcal infection	Conjunctivitis
Varicella	Zoster	Rubella
Diphtheria	Enteroviral infections	Viral respiratory infections
Herpes simples	Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)	Cytomegalovirus infections

Guidelines for Prevention of Exposure and Infection

1. Students must successfully complete annual blood borne pathogens training prior to initiating formal clinical experiences.
2. Students are required to use proper hand washing techniques and practice good hygiene at all times.
3. Students are required to use Universal Precautions at all times. This applies to all clinical sites.
4. Patient care should not be performed when the athletic training student has active signs or symptoms of a communicable disease.

Guidelines for Managing Potential Infection

1. Any student who has been exposed to a potential infection before, during, or after a clinical experience should report that exposure to his/her supervising clinical instructor **immediately** and to the Coordinator of Education Coordinator.
2. Any student, who demonstrates signs or symptoms of infection or disease that may place him/her and/or his/her patients at risk, should report that potential infection or disease **immediately** to his/her supervising clinical instructor.
3. The student is responsible for keeping the Coordinator of Clinical Education informed of his/her conditions that require extended care and/or missed class/clinical time. The student may be required to provide written documentation from a physician to return to class and/or clinical site.
4. If a student feels ill enough to miss ANY class or clinical experience that student should notify the appropriate instructor or supervising CI **immediately**. Any absence must be supported with written documentation from a physician.

By signing below, you indicate you understand and will abide by the BSU ATP's Communicable Disease Policy. Any breach of the Communicable Disease Policy will result in disciplinary action outlined in the Athletic Training Student Handbook, which will be determined by the Program Director, Director of Clinical Education, and ATP faculty.

Athletic Training Student Name (Print)

Date

Athletic Training Student Signature

Banner ID