

# FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC TRAINING PROGRAM

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASE POLICY

Taber's Medical Dictionary defines communicable disease as "a disease that may be transmitted directly or indirectly from one individual to another". This policy is established to protect both athletic training students and the patients the athletic training students come into contact with from transmitting a communicable disease. The protection of these individuals from disease transmission is very important in order to prevent epidemics.

In the event athletic training students (ATS) become ill during their assigned clinical experiences they, at the discretion of the preceptor, will be excused from further assigned clinical experiences. If the ATS becomes ill outside of their assigned clinical experiences, they should notify their assigned preceptor as soon as feasible of their illness and steps they are taking to seek medical intervention. The ATS should report to the FHSU Student Health Center or to another medical practitioner as soon as possible for evaluation and diagnosis of the illness. Based upon the medical practitioner's diagnosis, a plan of treatment and an assessment of the amount of time the ATS will be excused from clinical experiences will be made. Written verification must be provided to the preceptor, and/or program director or designee from the medical practitioner documenting they are released to continue assigned clinical experiences.

If the ATS is diagnosed as having a communicable disease (as defined by the CDC – see below), the ATS will notify as soon as possible the preceptor **AND** Program Director or designee of the diagnosis. Written verification from the medical practitioner confirming a non-contagious state and releasing the ATS to resume their clinical education experiences is required to be completed and turned into the Program Director or designee **BEFORE** the ATS will be allowed to return. If the ATS acquires a communicable disease requiring an extensive leave of absence that causes the ATS to fall behind in their clinical experiences and classroom courses, the Program Director, in conjunction with the Chair of the Health and Human Performance Department, will weigh the options and formulate a plan that will allow the ATS to get caught up in their course and clinical requirements once they are deemed non-contagious and release by the medical practitioner.

The following are communicable diseases cited by the CDC that require isolation to prevent pathogen spread:

Blood borne Pathogens (HBV, HBC, HIV)	Conjunctivitis	Poliomyelitis
Cytomegalovirus	Diphtheria	Rabies
Acute Gastroenteritis	Hepatitis A	Rubella
Herpes Simplex	Measles	Tuberculosis
Meningococcal disease	Mumps	Mononucleosis
Parvovirus	Pertussis	Varicella
Scabies and pediculosis	Vaccinia (smallpox)	
<i>Staphylococcus</i> infection and carriage	Group A <i>Streptococcus</i> infection	
Viral respiratory Infections (influenza, respiratory syncytial virus, the common cold)		

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby acknowledge that I have read the Fort Hays State University Athletic Training Program's Communicable Disease Policy and agree to abide by it. I also understand this policy is in effect while I am enrolled in the Fort Hays State University Athletic Training Program.

Athletic Training Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_