Communicable disease shall be defined as an illness due to an infectious agent or its toxic products which is transmitted directly or indirectly to a person from an infected person or animal. Communicable disease shall include, but not be limited to:

- Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and AIDS related complex (ARC)
- Chickenpox
- Conjunctivitis
- Hepatitis B, C and D
- Infectious Mononucleosis
- Influenza
- Measles
- Meningitis
- Positive HIV antibody status
- Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Tuberculosis
- Pertussis

Persons who know or who have reason to believe that they are infected with a communicable disease have an ethical and legal obligation to conduct themselves in accordance with such knowledge in order to protect themselves and others. Students and employees who have communicable diseases, whether symptomatic or not, will be allowed regular classroom and work attendance in an unrestrictive manner as long as they are physically able to attend classes, college activities and/or work and do not pose a medically proven threat for transmission of the disease or condition.

Persons who are infected with a communicable disease are expected to seek expert medical advice and are encouraged to advise local health authorities. Local health authorities should offer counseling to these persons about measures which can be taken to prevent the spread of infection and about ways to protect their own health.

Students and employees who know that they are infected with a communicable disease are urged to share that information with the appropriate college administrator. Students should contact the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services, and employees should contact the Director of Human Resources so the College may respond appropriately to their needs. Medical information relating to the communicable diseases of a student or employee will be disclosed to responsible college officials only on a strictly limited need-to-know basis.

No person, group, agency, insurer, employer, or institution should be provided any medical information without the prior specific written consent of a student or employee unless required by state and/or federal law. Furthermore, all medical information relating to the communicable diseases of students and employees will be kept confidential, according to state and federal law, including the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.
In the case of a contagious disease outbreak, local and state health officials will be consulted and the Cloud County Community College Crisis Management Plan will be followed.

Appropriate Handling of Potentially Contaminated Material

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the American Public Health Association and the Centers for Disease Control have developed protocols for the handling and disposal of potentially infectious biological material. For the most part these protocols are not costly or time consuming and simply represent good practice in any public setting. Since the known mechanism for transmission of HIV is through exposure to infected blood and other bodily fluids, all who may encounter such products as part of their educational experience must be regularly trained in the appropriate methods for working with and disposing of such fluids. In addition they need to have ready access to the necessary supplies to accomplish this task including personal protective equipment (PPE). For specific plan, refer to the “Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan” (Policy F19) adopted by Cloud County Community College. A partial listing of students who might require such training would include trainers for contact sports and nursing students. The Vice-President for Enrollment Management and Student Services is expected to insure that training has been provided to the necessary students. On a yearly basis the Vice-President for Enrollment Management and Student Services should certify to the President that this has been accomplished.

Participation in Campus Activities

A. Housing. Refer to the Residence Life Handbook.

B. Athletic Activities. To date there have been no documented cases of HIV transmission during athletic activity. Based on current medical and epidemiological information, HIV infection alone is insufficient grounds to prohibit athletic competition. This statement is supported by the joint position of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine (AMSSM) and the American Academy for Sports Medicine (AASM) and the position statement of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the United States Olympic Committee and the American College Health Association (ACHA).

The decision to allow continued athletic participation of an athlete with AIDS or a positive HIV test should be based on the athlete’s current health status and left up to the discretion of the athlete and his/her physician. Eligibility to participate in athletics for the HIV-athlete should be determined using the same procedures and standards used for all other athletes. In the event of a significant illness or injury, student athletes are encouraged to inform the head athletic trainer if they have tested positive for HIV.