

**POLICY**

Effective Date: 05/1993

Approved By: President's Council

Authority: WAC 296-823

Cancels:

See Also: POL U5950-01 Health, Safety and Environmental Protection

**POL-U5950.07 BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS (HUMAN BLOOD, BLOOD PRODUCTS AND SPECIMENS)**

*This policy applies to all University personnel.*

**1. Personnel Handling or Exposed to Bloodborne Pathogens or Potentially Infectious Materials Must Comply with State Regulations**

The Washington Administrative Code Part 296-823 Provides Regulations to University personnel for handling of and exposure to bloodborne pathogens or potentially infectious material. These regulations are applicable to employees in several areas of the University, specifically those who have an occupational exposure to human blood or other potentially infectious materials. The regulations provide a list of materials included as bloodborne pathogens. The term, blood, shall be taken to indicate human blood and to include the other potentially infectious materials presented in the list.

**2. Occupational Exposure is Defined in the Regulations**

Occupational exposures are those exposures which are reasonably anticipated as a result of skin, eye, mucous membrane, or parenteral (under the skin) contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials during the performance of duties. This excludes incidental exposures that may take place which are neither reasonably nor routinely expected or that the worker is not required to incur on the job.

**3. Department Heads and Directors are Responsible to Implement Regulations**

The University administration has assigned the task of implementing the bloodborne pathogens regulations to department heads and center directors.

Supervisors are responsible to the department head for implementing this standard. The Environmental Health and Safety office coordinates the bloodborne pathogens program.

## POLICY

#### 4. **Students Receive the Same Protections Regarding Bloodborne Pathogens as Employees**

The University's program requires that students receive the same protection and training as employees while they are pursuing academically-related endeavors.

However, students may be required to provide Hepatitis B virus vaccination at their own expense and show documentation of vaccination prior to commencing selected academic activities.