



UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

TITLE:	UB Student Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan
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POLICY STATEMENT:

The University of Bridgeport (the "University") is committed to providing a safe and healthy learning environment for its students. As such, while not required by state or federal law*, the University provides this Policy to minimize or eliminate student exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials.

PROCEDURE DETAILS:

This Policy applies to students who may reasonably anticipate exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials (through eye, mouth, mucous membrane, non-intact skin, or parenteral contact) during the course of his/her studies at the University. This Policy applies to students on-campus, as well as those participating in university approved clinical affiliate sites off-campus. Students participating off-campus are also required to follow the policies and procedures of the clinical affiliate site, whose policies will control in the event of a conflict with this Policy. The Policy shall be reviewed and updated annually by the University. Implementation and compliance shall be monitored and coordinated by the Director or his/her designee of each clinic, school, or department supervising the students.

PUBLISH POLICY STATEMENT (CLICK ON BOX NEXT TO OPTION-SELECT ALL THAT APPLY):

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNIVERSITY CATALOG | <input type="checkbox"/> STAFF HANDBOOK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FACULTY HANDBOOK | <input type="checkbox"/> STUDENT HANDBOOK |

DEFINITIONS:

Bloodborne Pathogens: pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

Contaminated: the presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.

Contaminated Sharps: any contaminated object that can penetrate the skin including, but not limited to, needles, scalpels, broken glass, broken capillary tubes, and exposed ends of dental wires.

Exposure Incident: a specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, non-intact skin, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that results from the performance of an employee's duties.

Handwashing facilities: a facility providing an adequate supply of running potable water, soap, and single-use towels or air-drying machines.

HBV: Hepatitis B virus.

HIV: human immunodeficiency virus.

Occupational Exposure: means reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucous membrane, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of a student's duties.

Other Potentially Infectious Materials:

- (1) The following human body fluids: semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pleural fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva in dental procedures, any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids;
- (2) Any unfixed tissue or organ (other than intact skin) from a human (living or dead); and
- (3) HIV-containing cell or tissue cultures, organ cultures, and HIV- or HBV-containing culture medium or other solutions; and blood, organs, or other tissues from experimental animals infected with HIV or HBV.

Parenteral means: piercing mucous membranes or the skin barrier through such events as needlesticks, human bites, cuts, and abrasions.

Personal Protective Equipment: specialized clothing or equipment worn by an employee for protection against a hazard. General work clothes (e.g., uniforms, pants, shirts or blouses) not intended to function as protection against a hazard are not considered to be personal protective equipment.

Source Individual: any individual, living or dead, whose blood or other potentially infectious materials may be a source of occupational exposure to the employee. Examples include, but are not limited to, hospital and clinic patients; clients in institutions for the developmentally disabled; trauma victims; clients of drug and alcohol treatment facilities; residents of hospices and nursing homes; human remains; and individuals who donate or sell blood or blood components.

EXCLUSIONS:

N/A

OFFICES DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY THE POLICY:

The President of the University has the ultimate responsibility for the laboratory safety on campus. This responsibility is delegated to the Provost and Deans of the Colleges for all academic areas and to the Associate Vice President for Facilities through the Vice-President of Finance and Administration for all non-academic areas. The IBLSC will review and approve this policy and all future changes.

HISTORY: Drafted 2016, Revised 2018, Complete review and Revision took place in fall 2024 to spring 2025.
Approved by IBLSC April 2025.

EFFECTIVE DATE:	April 2025
RESPONSIBLE OFFICE (ONLY ONE):	Biosafety Officer and IBLSC
REVIEW DATE:	April 2026

APPENDIX:

*OSHA sets forth bloodborne pathogen requirements for employers, but not for students. Nonetheless, this Policy is drafted in consultation with the OSHA standards.

In accordance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (“OSHA”) Bloodborne Pathogens Standards, 29 CFR § 1910.1030