

	<u>MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE</u> <u>POLICIES AND PROCEDURES</u> <b>Academic Affairs</b>	POLICY NUMBER	
		EFFECTIVE	
	<u>SUBJECT</u> <b>Blood Borne Pathogen Policy For Students</b>	PAGES	

**SECTION 1: PURPOSE**

The blood borne pathogen policy for students delineates actions students who have blood borne infections should take upon their matriculation at MSM to ensure they are accommodated and are able to complete their medical training. It also details actions these students should take to limit potential infectious disease exposure to other students, healthcare personnel, and patients.

**SECTION 2: POLICY STATEMENT**

Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) is committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and the protection of the rights of students with known blood borne pathogen (BBP) infections while maintaining the safety for all students, faculty and patients. MSM does not discriminate against students who are known to have BBP infections in admissions and retention in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, ADA.

**SECTION 3: SCOPE OF POLICY**

This policy applies to students who are aware that they are infected with a blood borne pathogen including but not limited to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV).

**SECTION 4: DEFINITIONS**

Blood Borne Pathogen- Pathogenic microorganisms that are present in the blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV).

**SECTION 5: POLICY**

- All students with known BBP Infections are required to register with the MSM Office of Disabilities (ODS) to ensure reasonable accommodations are provided for the student, as appropriate to enable them to complete their medical education. An accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- MSM will take reasonable efforts to make sure the student’s confidentiality is maintained as required by applicable law and to facilitate their medical educational needs with privacy.
- The student will be required to sign a confidentiality waiver/release for the student’s treating healthcare provider in order to provide information to the ODS.
- All students must follow Universal Precautions as set forth by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and any other up-to-date infection control measures required at all clinical sites and in the MSM Gross Anatomy Laboratory.
- Students with known BBP Infections should be under the care of a healthcare provider. Suppression of the student’s viral load is the goal of therapy, whenever possible. All HIV+ students should be on medical therapy.
- Students who rotate at clinical sites in other institutions will be expected to adhere to the infection control policies of those institutions. A student may withdraw from or forego participation in a clinical activity or procedure without penalty if that the student believes he/she may present an unreasonable risk of infecting others.

**SECTION 6: CONTACT INFORMATION**

Office of Disabilities Services  
Harris Building, Room 132  
404-756-5200