

Skidmore College  
Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan

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NOTE: For the purposes of this policy, the Department Supervisor for academic faculty and staff (including student employees) and students taking academic courses is the Environmental Health and Safety Office for Academic Affairs.

## Training

1. All employees determined to be at risk for bloodborne pathogen exposure will have **training** 10 days of hire and annual training as required by OSHA.
  - a. Nonacademic employees will review the training video Bloodborne Pathogens: Always Protect Yourself accessed on Learnmore. (Login: [Here](#)).
  - b. Academic faculty and staff (including student employees) and students taking academic courses will review the online training at [CIT](#). Contact EHS for access to the training.
  - c. Department supervisors are responsible for **site specific training**. Site specific training will include a review of situations that involve potential blood contact, PPE (location and use), procedures for routine cleaning (including name of disinfectant and contact times), waste packaging and disposal, what to do in the event of an exposure, including who to contact and where to be evaluated. A site-specific plan will be posted in an appropriate area as a reference for all employees.
2. Training shall include:
  - A general explanation of the epidemiology and symptoms of bloodborne diseases.
  - An explanation of the modes of transmission of bloodborne pathogens.
  - An explanation of this plan and how an employee can obtain a copy of it.
  - An explanation of the appropriate methods for recognizing tasks and other activities that may involve exposure to blood and other potentially infectious materials.
  - An explanation of the use and limitations of the methods used to prevent or reduce occupational exposure, including appropriate work practices and PPE.
  - Information on the basis for selection of PPE.
  - Information on the Hepatitis B vaccination program as described in this document.
  - Information on the appropriate actions to be taken and people to contact in an emergency involving blood or other potentially infectious materials.
  - An explanation of the procedure to follow if an exposure incident occurs, including the method of reporting the incident and the medical follow-up that.

4. Employees who schedule vaccination and fail to attend the appointment will not be allowed to work until vaccination or declination of vaccination.
5. Employees who initially decline the vaccine will be offered the vaccine annually via training.
6. Currently, there is no recommendation for booster doses of the vaccine. The United States Public Health standards change to include a booster, the booster will be offered to all at-risk employees.

## Methods of Compliance

Engineering and work practice controls will be utilized to eliminate or minimize employee exposure. Department specific training will include a review of these controls on hire and during annual training. Personal protective equipment will be used for infection control when occupational exposure persists despite engineering and work practice controls.

### Work Practice Controls:

1. Universal precautions: When differentiation between body fluid types is difficult or impossible, all body fluids shall be considered potentially infectious materials.
2. Regulated Waste
  - a. Use of appropriate containers for storage, transport, or shipment of blood or potentially infectious materials and contaminated laundry.
3. Safe Work Practices
  - a. Handwashing is the single most important means of preventing the spread of infection and an important measure to decrease occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens or biohazardous materials. Handwashing facilities are available in laboratories, patient care areas, and training rooms.
  - b. Antiseptic towelettes or antiseptic hand sanitizer will be made available in areas where hand washing facilities do not exist.
  - c. All procedures involving bloodborne or other potentially infectious biohazardous materials are performed to minimize splashing.
  - d. Awareness of the appropriate disinfectants and tools used to assist in cleanup and decontamination of work surfaces.
4. Work Area Restrictions
  - a. Eating, drinking, smoking, applying cosmetics, lip balm, and handling of food or drink is prohibited in work areas.



5. Centrifuge:

## Procedure for Evaluation of Blood Exposure

An occupational exposure incident is defined as "specific eye, mouth or other mucous membranes, intact skin, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that results from the performance of an employee's duties."

### Employees/Student Employees:

1. After exposure, the employee will be administered first aid. All affected areas of skin must be washed thoroughly, and eyes flushed for 15 minutes if necessary.
2. Each incident MUST be reported to the employee's supervisor immediately.
3. Every employee has the right to be evaluated by a qualified healthcare professional.



a.

5. All at risk employees must have annual training
  - a. This training can occur in person or by online video
  - b. The type of training, date, and trainer information must be documented
  - c. Employees must have the opportunity to ask questions.
  - d. Employees should be aware of who to notify after exposure, appropriate disinfectant, collection location of blood waste, location PPE is stored.
6. Records of annual training must be kept for 3 years.
7. Site Specific plans should be completed and displayed in an area available to employees. The sitespecific plan can be used as a guide for training.
8. Training records should be available for review.

#### EMPLOYEE EXPOSURE:

1. Offer



- High-touch surface:
  - Open skin or mucus membranes are to contact high touch surfaces resulting in more



that the specific employee is requesting vaccination. Saratoga Hospital Medical Group-Occupational Medicine administers the vaccination. Vaccination should occur during the employee's normal scheduled shift. Employees can call to schedule vaccination, 518886-5412. Occupational Medicine is located at 2388 Route 9, Malta, NY 12020. Alternatively, employees may elect to receive vaccination from their primary care physician or a pharmacy. In these cases, the employee would use their private health insurance to cover the cost. Skidmore College will cover the cost only if an employee receives vaccination at Occupational Medicine.

11. I work in an area away from running water. How do I wash my hands if I have been exposed?

Alcohol hand sanitizers are portable and effective at killing germs on the skin surface. It might be a good idea to keep a first aid kit stocked with alcohol hand sanitizer and other first aid supplies in a vehicle or backpack depending on your job location. As soon as possible, any exposed areas exposed to blood should be thoroughly washed, eyes flushed for 15 minutes.

12. How do I prevent exposure to blood borne pathogens?

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## APPENDIX D

Site Specific Plan template is available at [https://www.skidmore.edu/safety\\_committee/SiteSpecificPlan.docx](https://www.skidmore.edu/safety_committee/SiteSpecificPlan.docx)

### References:

1. Occupational Health and Safety Administration (2011). Most Frequently Asked Questions Concerning the Bloodborne Pathogens Standard. Retrieved from: <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/standardinterpretations/1993-004-0>
2. Occupational Health and Safety Administration (May 2019). 1910.1030- Bloodborne pathogens. Retrieved from: <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.1030>
3. University of Washington Site Specific Bloodborne Pathogen Specific Exposure Control Plan template (2017). Retrieved from: