This policy was designed in coordination with the Carr School of Nursing and Harding University’s Legal Council

*The NATA Code of Ethics states: “Members shall respect the rights, welfare, and dignity of all individuals”*

1. Students are expected to provide care for clients with infectious/communicable diseases including, but not limited to HIV, HBV, and Tuberculosis. If a student is at risk for harm, such as a student who is immunocompromised, the student may be temporarily reassigned.

2. Students must comply with agency specific policies related to care of clients with infectious and/or communicable diseases.

3. Guidelines for communicable disease prevention recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control will serve as Harding University's guidelines for client care. Athletic Training care for clients will be planned and implemented using Standard Precautions and critical thinking.

4. HIV testing is not required for admission to the Athletic Training Program. Qualified students are not denied admission to the program based on HIV status. Reasonable accommodations are made by the Athletic Training Education Program to assist the student in the completion of education.

5. Any athletic training student who believes him/herself to be at risk for exposure to a communicable disease including, but not limited to HIV, HBV, and Tuberculosis has an ethical obligation to know his/her status and be tested. The Director of the Athletic Training should be notified immediately if a positive test result occurs.

6. Students who test positive for a communicable disease including, but not limited to HIV, HBV, and Tuberculosis, will be counseled through the Director’s office regarding how their health status may impact performance as an athletic training student, including appropriate safeguards and expected behaviors. Reasonable accommodations will be assessed through the Director’s office. However, essential degree requirements and/or core performance standards must be met in order to progress within the program. (See Technical Standards).

7. With some conditions the clinical agency/affiliated clinic may require self-reporting and may not allow the student to participate in clinical experiences in their facility. The clinical agency has the right to determine whether the student may participate in/continue learning experiences in their agency.

8. As in the case of any policy and procedure guidelines, Harding University and the Athletic Training Program reserve the right to revise the policy. Students will be notified of any substantial changes. Questions or interpretations regarding the policy should be directed to the Director of Athletic Training.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above policy.

Name: ____________________________ Date: __________________

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Athletic Training Program
Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences

Infectious / Communicable Disease Policy