

# OREGON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

## AIDS OIT-30-040

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It is the policy of Oregon Institute of Technology to address the issue of Human Immunodeficiency Virus, which causes Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS), through behavioral, psychological, and disability matters and through currently published standards of conduct.

The campus community is committed to doing everything possible to prevent people from being infected, to limit the consequences of established infection, and to provide compassionate care for all concerned individuals.


Fundamental to this commitment will be an effective educational program to increase awareness and to provide resources for information and assistance. The OIT community will be encouraged to refer to the informational publication on the AIDs policy including guidelines for students and employees.

These established guidelines based on information obtained from the most credible sources of scientific and legal knowledge will be available to staff and students and will be updated as necessary.

It is the desire of Oregon Institute of Technology to respect the rights and concerns of all, and through education, understanding and compassion, to deal effectively and responsibly with these issues.

Recommended by:

Associated Student Body Officers – 3/92  
Faculty Senate – 4/92  
President's Council – 1/93

Approved:   
Date: January, 1993

**Preface to Guidelines**

These recommendations and guidelines are based on the best currently available medical information, and on recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control, the Public Health Service and the American College Health Association.

These guidelines are developed with the understanding that:

1. Persons with AIDS\* do not normally pose a health risk to others in an academic, residential or work setting. The risks of spreading HIV are those of intimate sexual contact, exposure to contaminated blood and perinatal transmission.
2. The college population is behaviorally at risk and needs to be educated for its own protection. People can choose to do or not do the things that expose them to HIV/AIDS.
3. Many individuals are asymptomatic and can transmit HIV/AIDS, but if they are not aware that they are infected, they may not be receiving appropriate care and support.
4. Each individual HIV/AIDS infection among students and staff will be analyzed and addressed on a case-by-case basis, using compassion and reasonable response, within a framework of these guidelines.
5. Public information about HIV/AIDS-related issues will be handled through the Director of Public Affairs, using the resources developed by the AIDS Task Force and in consultation with legal counsel.

\*The term "persons with AIDS" means any person with any form of HIV disease, including all persons who have been found to carry the HIV antibody, whether or not they are symptomatic.

### **Student Guidelines**

Admission and Attendance: Students with HIV/AIDS will be allowed unrestricted classroom attendance, employment opportunities and participation in curricular and extra-curricular activities as long as they are physically and mentally able and meet admission requirements.

Housing: Decisions about housing for students affected by HIV/AIDS will be made on a case-by-case basis. Current medical information does not indicate any risk to those sharing residence with infected individuals. In some cases, there may be concern for students with immune deficiencies (of any origin) when those students may be exposed to certain contagious diseases (e.g. chicken pox or measles) in a close living arrangement. A workable solution will be to offer a single room, if available, to an infected student. There is no requirement that the roommate of an HIV-positive person be told. To prevent transmission, open discussion and general education should be provided to make all residents aware of the risks of sharing personal articles that may be contaminated with blood and practicing behaviors known to transmit the virus.

Access to Facilities: Persons with HIV/AIDS will not be restricted from access to the college union, eating areas, gymnasium, swimming pool, recreational and entertainment facilities, or other common areas.

Testing: Mandatory testing of students will not be implemented. Testing will be recommended only in very unusual circumstances affecting the safety of others and then only with voluntary, informed consent. Students requesting testing will be referred to appropriate resources for anonymous testing at an agency that provides pre- and post-test counseling or they can request confidential testing through the Student Health Service.

Confidentiality: No specific or detailed information concerning individual students will be provided to any person, agency, insurer, employer, or institution without the prior specific written consent of the student, except as required by law. Oregon Revised Statutes prohibit any person from disclosing the fact that another person has AIDS, except in very limited circumstances. (ORS 433.045(3)).

Medical Care: Students will not routinely be asked about the existence of HIV/AIDS infection. Students who are infected are encouraged to inform a campus health care provider in the Student Health Service of their condition. This will allow health care providers to promote appropriate medical and educational needs, to inform students of outbreaks of contagious diseases that pose a danger to them, and to arrange competent resources for care, information and support.