1. The Communicable Disease Policy of Southwestern Community College was developed to ensure the good health and safety of all students and employees.

2. Communicable disease shall be defined as an illness due to an infectious agent or its toxic products which is transmitted directly or indirectly to a person from an infected person or animal through the agency of an intermediate animal, host or vector, or through the inanimate environment. (NC G. S. 130-A-133). Communicable disease shall include, but not be limited to:

   - Influenza
   - Tuberculosis
   - Conjunctivitis
   - Infectious Mononucleosis
   - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and AIDS related complex (ARC)
   - Positive HIV antibody status
   - Hepatitis A, B, and D
   - Meningitis
   - Sexually Transmitted Diseases
   - Measles
   - Chickenpox
   - Whooping Cough
   - Measles

3. Persons who know or who have reason to believe that they are infected with a communicable disease have an ethical and legal obligation to conduct themselves in accordance with such knowledge in order to protect themselves and others. Students and employees who have communicable diseases, whether symptomatic or not, will be allowed regular classroom and work attendance in an unrestricted manner as long as they are physically able to attend classes, college activities and /or work and do not pose a medically proven threat for transmission of the disease or condition.

4. Persons who are infected with a communicable disease are expected to seek expert medical advise and are encouraged to advise local health authorities. Local health authorities should offer counseling to these persons about measures which can be taken to prevent the spread of infection and about ways to protect their own health.

5. Students and employees who know that they are infected with a communicable disease are urged to share that information with the appropriate college administrator. Students should contact the Dean of Student Services and employees should contact the President, so the College may respond appropriately to their needs. Medical information relating to the communicable diseases of a student or employee will be disclosed to responsible college officials only on a strictly limited need-to-know basis.
6. No person, group, agency, insurer, employer, or institution should be provided any medical information without the prior specific written consent of a student or employee unless required by state and/or federal law. Furthermore, all medical information relating to the communicable diseases of students and employees will be kept confidential, according to an amendment to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.