

## **Bloodborne Pathogen Policy Statement**

Due to the nature of the clinical and laboratory experiences in the Dental Hygiene Program, students will be participating in a work environment that has the potential of exposure to bloodborne pathogens and diseases via saliva and blood, such as Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

The Lake Superior College Dental Hygiene Program maintains strict compliance with local, state, and federal infection control policies and guidelines. The program utilizes engineering controls and requires use of Standard Precautions in all clinical and laboratory settings

All students accepted into the dental hygiene program receive education and written policy on infection/hazard control procedures for safe practice in the dental hygiene clinic and laboratory to minimize and manage the risk of disease transmission. This protocol is provided in multiple courses throughout the curriculum. Dental hygiene faculty monitor student compliance of these policies to ensure a safe environment for all. Students must provide proof of compliance with Lake Superior College immunization requirements.

Other work related disorders associated with the practice of dental hygiene could result from repetitive activities and exposure to high decibel sounds. Advancements in design and technology in the profession are continually evolving to minimize these effects.

Policies and procedures on the Dental Hygiene Program's infection/hazard control protocol are available to all applicants and patients upon request.