AIDS/HIV Policy for Residential Students

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is an international public health concern that affects all segments of society including college communities. Current medical information provided by the United States Centers for Disease Control confirms that the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is not transmitted by casual contact and poses no risk to students or employees in the campus setting. Accordingly, the College of Charleston is committed to and assures:

- Non-discriminatory programs and services to students that have or may have been exposed to the HIV as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- AIDS/HIV safety guidelines issued by the Center for Disease Control and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration will be followed and training in operating procedures of universal precautions will be required for relevant campus employees.
- Educational programs to create awareness about HIV infection, its modes of transmission and prevention and increased sensitivity to students with HIV infection will be provided.

Students with HIV infection who need reasonable accommodation under the provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) should contact the Center for Disability Services (843-953-1431) for information and assistance.

Students who believe they have been discriminated against based on HIV infection are protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act and should contact the ADA Coordinator in the Office of Human Relations (843-953-5580).

Administrative or medical decisions made with respect to an individual student with HIV infection or AIDS will be decided on a case-by-case basis by appropriate University personnel. Strict confidentiality will be maintained in each case as mandated by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).

Health Services will monitor medical releases from the Centers for Disease Control, the United States Public Health Service, American College Health Association, and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. Based on current information distributed by official sources, appropriate Student Affairs departments will coordinate the implementation of guidelines and ensure revision to the college’s policies and procedures as appropriate.

*Adapted from the University of Arizona and the University of South Carolina policies on AIDS/HIV December 2004.*