4319.43

UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

In order to protect all employees from contact with potentially infectious blood or other body fluids, the Governing Board requires that universal precautions be observed throughout the district. Universal precautions are appropriate for preventing the spread of all infectious diseases and shall be used regardless of whether bloodborne pathogens are known to be present.

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(cf. 4157/4257/4357 - Employee Safety)
(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)
(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)
(cf. 5141.24 - Specialized Health Care Services)
(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)
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The Superintendent or designee shall distribute to employees information provided by the California Department of Education (CDE) regarding acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), AIDS-related conditions, and hepatitis B. This information shall include, but not be limited to, any appropriate methods employees may use to prevent exposure to AIDS and hepatitis B, including information concerning the availability of a vaccine to prevent contraction of hepatitis B, and that the cost of this vaccination may be covered by the health plan of the employees. Information shall be distributed annually, or more frequently if there is new information supplied by CDE. (Health and Safety Code 120875, 120880)

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(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)
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Employees shall immediately report any exposure incident or first aid incident in accordance with the district's exposure control plan for bloodborne pathogens or other safety procedures.

(cf. 4119.42/4219.42/4319.42 - Exposure Control Plan for Bloodborne Pathogens)

Legal Reference:

GOVERNMENT CODE

3543.2 Scope of bargaining

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

117600-118360 Handling and disposal of regulated waste

120875 Providing information to school districts on AIDS, AIDS-related conditions and Hepatitis B

120880 Information to employees of school district

LABOR CODE

6401.7 Injury and illness prevention program

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 8

3203 Injury and illness prevention program

5193 California bloodborne pathogens standard

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 29

1910.1030 OSHA bloodborne pathogens standards

UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS (continued)

Management Resources:

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION PUBLICATIONS

Hepatitis B Questions and Answers for the Public

WEB SITES

American Federation of Teachers: https://www.aft.org

California Department of Industrial Relations, Occupational Safety and Health:

http://www.dir.ca.gov/occupational_safety.html

California Department of Public Health: https://www.cdph.ca.gov Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: http://www.cdc.gov

U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration: http://www.osha.gov

Policy VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: June 24, 1997 Visalia, CA revised: October 27, 2020

4319.43

UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

Definitions

Universal precautions are an approach to infection control. All human blood and certain human body fluids, including, but not limited to semen, vaginal secretions, and any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, are treated as if known to be infectious for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), and other bloodborne pathogens. (8 CCR 5193; 29 CFR 1910.1030)

Occupational exposure means reasonably anticipated contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of an employee's duties. (8 CCR 5193; 29 CFR 1910.1030)

A *sharp* is any object that can be reasonably anticipated to penetrate the skin or any other part of the body and to result in an exposure incident. (8 CCR 5193)

Infection Control Practices

For the prevention of infectious disease, the district shall:

1. Effectively maintain the worksite in a clean and sanitary condition, and implement an appropriate written schedule for cleaning and decontamination of the worksite

(cf. 4119.42/4219.42/4319.42 - Exposure Control Plan for Bloodborne Pathogens)

- 2. When necessary for employees with occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens, provide appropriate personal protective equipment, such as gloves, masks, and outer garments, at no cost to the employee (8 CCR 5193)
- 3. Provide handwashing facilities which are readily accessible to employees, or, if not feasible, provide an appropriate antiseptic hand cleanser in conjunction with clean cloth or paper towels, or antiseptic towelettes

Any employee who has contact with blood or other body fluid, regardless of whether bloodborne pathogens are known to be present, shall:

- 1. Use personal protective equipment as appropriate.
- 2. Wash hands and other skin surfaces thoroughly with soap and running water:
 - a. Immediately or as soon as feasible following contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials.
 - b. Immediately after removing gloves or other personal protective equipment.

UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS (continued)

- 3. When handwashing facilities are not available, use antiseptic hand cleanser in conjunction with clean cloth or paper towels, or antiseptic towelettes. In such instances, hands shall be washed with soap and running water as soon as feasible.
- 4. Refrain from eating, drinking, smoking, applying cosmetics or lip balm, or handling contact lenses in work areas with a reasonable likelihood of occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens.
- 5. Clean and decontaminate all equipment and environmental and work surfaces after contact with blood or other potentially infectious material, no later than the end of the shift or more frequently as required by state regulations.
- 6. Rather than using the hands directly, use mechanical means such as a brush and dust pan, tongs, or forceps to clean up broken glassware which may be contaminated.
- 7. Use effective techniques designed to minimize the risk of a sharps injury in all procedures involving the use of sharps.

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(cf. 5141.21 - Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions) (cf. 5141.24 - Specialized Health Care Services)
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- 8. Handle, store, treat, and dispose of regulated waste in accordance with Health and Safety Code 117600-118360 and other applicable state and federal regulations.
 - a. Immediately or as soon as possible after use, contaminated sharps shall be placed in containers meeting the requirements of 8 CCR 5193.
 - b. Specimens of blood or other potentially infectious material shall be placed in a container which prevents leakage during collection, handling, processing, storage, transport, or shipping.

(cf. 4157/4257/4357 - Employee Safety) (cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies) (cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases) (cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services) (cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

Regulation adopted: June 24, 1997 revised: September 29, 2020 VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Visalia, CA