

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The Essex County School Board recognizes the importance of protecting its students and employees from the transmission of communicable diseases which present a threat to their health and safety while also protecting the legitimate interests and rights of students and employees with communicable diseases. The Essex County Board directs the superintendent to act in compliance with applicable law to exclude from school attendance or work in the school setting any person who has a communicable disease. Both the decision to remove the student or employee and the decision to readmit the student or to permit the employee to return to work are made by the superintendent based upon consultation with the local health department, the student's or employee's physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, and/or other medical authorities. (See policy JHCCA Blood Borne Contagious or Infectious Diseases).

The identity of a student who has a communicable disease is kept confidential and revealed only in accordance with state law. An alternative educational program is made available to any student whose removal pursuant to this policy is expected to result in a prolonged absence from school or where otherwise required by law.

Administrative procedures concerning the exclusion of employees and students with communicable diseases are consistent with the requirements of law, including the policies of the Virginia Department of Education and reflect current medical knowledge and research.

Adopted: April 9, 2012  
Revised: July 10, 2023

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Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-253.13:3, 22.1-254, 22.1-271.3, 22.1-272, 32.1-36.1, 54.1-2952.2, 54.1-2957.02.

8 VAC 20-131-180.

Cross Ref.:	EBAB	Possible Exposure to Viral Infections
	EBBB	Personnel Training—Viral Infections
	IGBG	Homebound, Correspondence and Alternative Means of Instruction
	JHCCA	Blood Borne Contagious or Infectious Diseases