

## Statement on AIDS/HIV Infection



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## Housing and Residence Life

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Housing and Residence Life fully supports the University policy on AIDS/HIV infection. All matters regarding this subject will be treated confidentially by Housing Services staff. Professional and paraprofessional staff members all participate in educational sessions addressing AIDS/HIV infection and other pertinent areas of information.

In addition, Housing and Residence Life collaborates with other agencies of the Five College community and the Pioneer Valley to provide educational programs, printed information, and training for residence staff.

### Goal

Housing and Residence Life's goal is to provide for and meet the needs of any resident living with AIDS or HIV infection. Our desire is to protect both the well-being of those who have the disease and the other members of the University community.

### Prevention

The primary prevention will come in the form of educational programs printed materials, informational bulletin boards, media resources, and informed staff. Assistance for those with the disease will be provided as needed, with medical advisement, so that the student can continue to live a full and productive life. Individuals with special needs should consult the Residence Director for their cluster. All information will remain confidential.

Students seeking information on AIDS/HIV and related topics can visit the Health Education Department at University Health Services, or call 577-5181.

### Testing

Anyone concerned that they have been exposed to the HIV virus may be tested anonymously without charge at University Health Services (UHS). To make an appointment, or for more information, please call the HIV Antibody Testing line, 577-5126. The phone is staffed 10 hours per week by a student peer educator who can schedule appointments at UHS, answer questions about AIDS/HIV, and provide referrals to other testing sites. Students who request anonymous testing at UHS will be scheduled for a half-hour intake appointment and blood test. During the appointment, a UHS staff member will discuss how AIDS/HIV are transmitted and strategies to reduce the risk of infection. Students receive the results of their blood tests two weeks after their intake appointment.

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### Caution

The HIV virus cannot be spread casually. The highest risks of HIV transmission include the exchange of bodily fluids through sexual activity, the sharing of needles, and exposure to contaminated blood products.

For more information, contact the Health Education Department, 577-5181 .