Information on Biomedical and Injury Risks for Students
Animal Care, Veterinary Technology, and Veterinary Science Programs

All students working in the Animal Care, Veterinary Technology, and Veterinary Science Programs must be given the following information to read. You must sign off that you have read and understand the material therein.

1) The program into which you are entering has associated with it specific hazards and risks due to the types of equipment utilized and the interaction with live animals. Injury can occur unexpectedly, and accidentally, when working with live animals, whether they be dogs, cats, laboratory animals, farm animals and horses, or exotic animal species.

2) It is your responsibility to notify your Academic Advisor or Program Director if you believe you are pregnant or have a medical condition that would increase your risk of contracting a zoonotic disease or sustaining any injury from anesthetic gases, x-ray radiation, or chemical exposure. These types of medical conditions that compromise the immune system may include, but are not limited to, diabetes mellitus, AIDS, immunosuppressive diseases (e.g., Lupus), and organ transplant recipients.

3) It will be up to the Academic Advisor or Program Director (depending upon who is notified) to discuss the issue with you and determine if Student Health Services needs to be notified.

4) This protocol is for the safety of the individual. All information you provide will be treated as private and in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and other applicable laws.

RISKS INVOLVED INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- Teratogens (e.g., disinfectants, cleaning compounds)
- Cytotoxic compounds (e.g., cancer drugs)
- Ionizing radiation (x-rays)
- Anesthetic gases
- Hormonal agents (e.g., corticosteroids)
- Physical injury (e.g., bites, scratches, kicks)
- Infectious disease organisms (e.g., leptospirosis, rabies, toxoplasmosis, ringworm, internal parasites)
Pregnancy:

The individual will be advised as to the following, if a risk is identified depending on their stage of pregnancy:

1) Option of a leave of absence with a return to the program after the pregnancy is over.

2) Option of a change in laboratory requirements or accommodations to decrease risk to the fetus and mother by exposure to disease, chemicals (Chemistry 101/102, A&P I and II), or radiation (e.g., AS 201 Radiology course), IF POSSIBLE.

3) Individuals must sign a waiver if they opt to remain in the course stating that they understand the risks involved. The individual must also sign a waiver that they will notify their physician that they are assuming said risks.

4) Objectives of a course will not be waived for a pregnant student, but reasonable effort can be made to accommodate a student’s specific needs. The instructor will work with the student to modify any objectives, where appropriate.

Student:

I, ________________________________ (name of individual), a (STUDENT) at Becker College, do agree to the following:

1) That I have read and fully understand the attached “Policies and Protocols” in regard to any risks that I may incur while participating in a course or working at Becker College in the Animal Health Sciences Program.

2) That I understand these risks may not only affect myself but any unborn child, or in some cases other family members.

3) That I agree to release and indemnify the Animal Health Sciences Program, Becker College, its Board Members, Trustees, Officers, Administrators, Employees, and Agents against any claims of personal or bodily injury to myself, my unborn fetus (where appropriate), or my family that occur as part of my coursework or job.

INDIVIDUAL NAME (print)

________________________________________

INDIVIDUAL NAME (signature)

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DATE