CONTINUING EDUCATION/STAFF DEVELOPMENT

PURPOSE: To provide guidelines for a Continuing Education and Staff Development Program for all health services personnel as required by the current accrediting body and by state statues.

POLICY:

I. A planned program for continuing education and staff development is conducted for health services personnel in accordance with the process of each university as well as each private prison. Continuing education/staff development may include instruction given on-site by a member of the health services staff or a guest lecturer, self-paced in-services, attendance at programs offered in the community by hospitals or other health care providers, and participation in programs such as those provided by a nationally recognized accreditation body for correctional agencies at which formal continuing education credits are offered.

II. All health services staff, including health care providers as well as administrative and support staff, are required to obtain a minimum number of hours, required by the accrediting body, or TDCJ Health Services, annually of continuing education and staff development appropriate to their positions.

III. A blood-borne pathogen update is provided annually to all staff.

IV. Refresher training will be provided to ensure that all employees know the agency’s current sexual abuse and sexual harassment policies and procedures.

V. Current CPR training is required for all health care providers who have direct patient contact and can be included in the hours required in II above. Documentation must be at the facility at which services are provided. Non-care providers are not required to maintain CPR certification.

VI. All continuing education as required by the current accrediting body and by state statutes is documented and retained on file at the facility at which services are provided for a minimum of three years.

Reference:

Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 85, HIV Services Act
ACA Performance Standard & Expected Practices 5-ACI-6B-08
AD 12.20 Implementation and Operation of the TDCJ In-Service Training
PREA Standard 115.31 Employee Training