

# Pregnancy Policy

## Dental Hygiene Program



According to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission: Regulatory Guide 8.13 – A student enrolled in the Dental Hygiene Program who becomes pregnant will be provided the following options related to the pregnancy.

The regulations allow a pregnant student to decide whether to formally declare the pregnancy to the advantage of lower dose limits for the embryo/fetus.

The choice whether to declare a pregnancy is completely voluntary.

The Dental Hygiene Program provides the following options:

1. A student may **voluntarily declare** the pregnancy by notifying the **Program Director** in writing and providing a physician's statement that includes name, a declaration of pregnancy, the estimated date of conception (only month and year need to be provided), and the date that Program Director was provided the letter. If this option is chosen the student will conference with the Program Director regarding NRC Regulations and potential risk.

If the student chooses to **voluntarily declare** the pregnancy, the following options will be provided. The student may:

- a. Sign a Release of Liability Statement releasing Indian Hills Community College and the Clinical Education Setting from liability and continue in the program. The signed "Release of Responsibility" will be included in the student's permanent IHCC records. The student will review a copy of the radiation Protection Regulations and Current Reports from the National Council for Radiation Protection and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding the effects of radiation on the unborn fetus. The student will be provided an additional fetal monitoring dosimeter and will be directed in the use of this dosimeter.
  - b. Withdraw from the Dental Hygiene Program and re-enter when an opening is available. Typically, this would be in the following year.
2. If the student **chooses not to declare** the pregnancy no further action by the Program Director or other officials will result.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_