

IMMUNIZATION FAQ FOR HEALTH CARE STUDENTS

1. **COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement:**

Up-to-date COVID-19 may be required to meet clinical placement. Unvaccinated students cannot be guaranteed a clinical placement, thereby jeopardizing their program progression.

2. **Where do I find my immunization records?**

If you are a recent graduate from high school, you can call your school nurse or your primary care physician. You can check your military records or baby shot record book. Your former pediatrician should have your immunization records.

3. **What if I can't find my records?**

You can be tested for immunity (called a titre) for MMR, Hep B, and Varicella which will satisfy this requirement.

4. **I'm an older student. Do I still need to provide proof of immunizations?**

Yes. It is a Commonwealth of MA regulation for all health care students.

5. **I had a physical less than a year ago. Is that still good?**

It may be, but it is necessary for you to have that information transferred onto our physical examination form.

6. **If I've worked in a medical facility and was allowed to waive the Hepatitis B series, why do I need it now?**

As an employee you can decline immunizations under the rules of OSHA. As a health science student you cannot decline immunizations under CMR 105.200 (Commonwealth of MA Regulation).

7. **Can I get a waiver for these immunizations?**

The only waivers accepted are medical and religious waivers. These exemptions/accommodations are specialized and are reviewed on a case-by-case basis according to Title IX and ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) state and federal regulations. With regard to the meningococcal vaccine only, a full-time student, 21 years of age and younger, can sign a waiver indicating they reviewed the meningococcal information sheet and choose to waive receipt of meningococcal vaccine.

8. **I have philosophical and/or personal reasons/beliefs against being immunized. Does this qualify for a waiver?**

No. Immunizations are required for public health reasons and are extremely important to the Health Science programs to protect both the caregiver and the patient.

9. **I am a former student and I already turned in my records. Do I need to turn them in or get the immunizations again?**

No. Many of the immunizations turned in as a general student will apply to the Health Science programs. However, Health Science programs require more. Please check with the Student Immunization Records Office so we may review your records and assist you in obtaining any further requirements.

REMEMBER!

- Make sure your current name, ID, DOB and selected health science program are on all documentation.
- Check with your health insurance co. to determine if they will cover your physical exam, lab tests and immunizations.
- For all health science and allied science students, make sure that you have signed and dated the CCCC Health Science Physical Examination form, and it has been turned into the Student Immunization Records Office. The Student Immunization Records Office will not be responsible for any paperwork turned into any other department.

Our staff is ready to assist in any way possible in meeting these requirements:

All health science students send health forms to:
Student Immunization Records
2240 Iyannough Road | West Barnstable, MA 02668
Email: immunizations@capecod.edu
Fax: 508-375-4039

Immunization Questions? Call 774.330.4331.

The Student Records Immunization Office is in the lower level of the Nickerson Administration building.



IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTH CAREER STUDENTS

In order to comply with the medical requirements for any health career program, you must complete all immunization forms and deliver them to the Student Immunization Records Office by the program deadline. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the program. Forms and more information can be found online at: www.capecod.edu/immunization.

Important! All health science students must begin the Hepatitis B vaccine series **at least six months before** the deadline.

1. **A Physical Exam** within one year of the Program's start, **submitted on the CCCC Health Sciences Program Physical Exam and Immunization Form**.
2. **Hepatitis B:** Three (3) dose Hep B vaccine series or a two (2) dose HEPLISAV-B vaccine series **AND** an immune Hepatitis B surface antibody titre.
"Acknowledgment of Risk of Acquiring Hepatitis B without Proof of Immunity".
3. **MMR (Measles, Mumps & Rubella):** Two (2) MMR vaccines or positive antibody titres of immunity.
4. **Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis):** One (1) adult Tdap vaccine then Td (Tetanus, Diphtheria) if it has been more than 10 years since Tdap.

Tuberculosis Screening: PPD (TB skin test) or TB blood test with negative results within the last year and annually thereafter. Participation in required clinical experiences may necessitate a two-step PPD. If PPD is positive, a negative chest x-ray within 2 years and a non-symptom report must be submitted annually or a TB blood test annually. **Students with a positive PPD** go to www.capecod.edu/immunization for non-symptom form.

5. **Varicella (chicken pox):** Two (2) Varicella vaccines or a positive antibody titre of immunity.
Note: Having had chicken pox disease **DOES NOT** satisfy requirement; Varicella positive antibody titre is required.
6. **Flu vaccine:** A seasonal flu vaccine will be required to meet clinical agency requirements.
7. **Meningococcal:** One dose of (**MenACWY**) vaccine will be required for **full time (12 credits or more)** students **21 years and younger** administered on or after the 16th birthday.
8. **COVID-19:** Up-to-date COVID-19 vaccine may be required to meet clinical placement. Unvaccinated students cannot be guaranteed a clinical placement, thereby jeopardizing their program progression.

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SPECIAL NOTES TO STUDENTS AND PROVIDERS

1. Check with your insurance company regarding the cost of immunizations and titres.
2. Vaccines are time-sensitive and must be delivered on schedule. A total regime of all the above listed immunizations can take six months to complete.

