

**LAMAR UNIVERSITY
JOANNE GAY DISHMAN SCHOOL OF NURSING**

IMMUNIZATION POLICY

Purpose/Rationale:

This policy was developed to comply with current state (Texas Administrative Code, Rule 97.64) 2010 and federal (Centers for Disease Control) 2015 guidelines regarding immunization of healthcare workers. The law mandates that health care workers (including students) receive a series of **REQUIRED** immunizations (see Immunization Requirements). Documentation of required immunizations or evidence of immunity must be provided and **copies** of **actual** immunization records attached.

POLICY:

- I. Students are required to provide a current annual Health Statement Form and proof of immunization, immunity confirmed by serologic testing, or waiver to *StudentCheck/SentryMD*.
- II. Students are responsible for the cost of the immunizations, as well as the serology (blood test) if needed to verify immunity.
- III. Students are required to have documentation of compliance with the Immunization Guidelines. The documentation *must be submitted* by the date published in the admission packet.
- IV. Any needed immunizations must be completed by the published due date indicated in the admission packet.
- V. **Waiver:** Acceptable waivers are written statements from a Primary Care Provider stating the reason for exemption. Waivers are due upon admission to the nursing program.

NOTE 1: Some mild reactions (rash, low grade temperature or chills) may occur following the administration of any vaccine. Any reaction to vaccines taken during the semester must be reported to the course leader.

NOTE 2: Take all of your immunization records to your Primary Care Provider for a complete evaluation.

Revised by Faculty Association 10/20/2014, 12/4/2015

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IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

The following immunizations are **REQUIRED** by the JoAnne Gay Dishman School of Nursing Student Health Policy and **must** be completed one week prior to the first class day of the semester. According to the Texas Administrative Code (2010), nursing students must have all the following vaccinations before they may engage in direct patient contact:

1. TUBERCULIN SKIN TEST (ANNUALLY):
 - A. Date tested (Must be current for the entire semester).
 - B. Results*
 - * Note: If TB skin test is positive, your Primary Care Provider must submit a statement concerning your current health status. If chest x-ray done, attach copy of the report.

2. POLIO: Not required if older than 18 years of age.
 - A. Date of last oral dose
OR
 - B. Exempt by age

3. TETANUS/DIPHTHERIA/PERTUSSIS: An initial series of DTaP required **with** a Tdap booster documented after the age of 11 or 12 years, then a Td booster every 10 years.
 - A. Proof of initial series
AND
 - B. Date of Tdap booster
 - C. Date of last Td

4. MEASLES:
 - A. Dates of 2 immunizations*
 - * All individuals born on or after January 1, 1957, must show 2 doses of measles vaccine administration on or after their 1st birthday and at least 30 days apart.
 - OR
 - B. Confirmed immunity by serologic testing
OR
 - C. Confirmation of the disease from healthcare provider or official school records
OR
 - D. Written waiver or letter from primary care provider stating medial reason for exemption

5. MUMPS:
 - A. Dates of 2 immunizations*
 - *All individuals born on or after January 1, 1957, must show 2 doses of measles vaccine administration on or after their 1st birthday and at least 30 days apart.
 - OR
 - B. Confirmed immunity by serologic testing
OR
 - C. Confirmation of the disease from healthcare provider or official school records
OR
 - D. Written waiver or letter from primary care provider stating medial reason for exemption

6. RUBELLA:
 - A. Date of last immunization
OR
 - B. Confirmed immunity by serologic testing
OR
 - C. Confirmation of the disease from healthcare provider or official school records
OR
 - D. Written waiver or letter from primary care provider stating medical reason for exemption

7. VARICELLA:
 - A. Dates of 2 immunizations
OR
 - B. Confirmed immunity by serologic testing
OR
 - C. Confirmation of the disease from healthcare provider or official school records
OR
 - D. Written waiver or letter from primary care provider stating medical reason for exemption

8. HEPATITIS B:
 - A. Dates of 3 immunizations (primary series)
AND
Laboratory confirmed immunity by serologic testing*
* If the serologic testing (blood test) is **negative immunity**, then the student must:
 - Take one booster dose **or** Repeat a 2nd series (3 immunizations)
 - after repeating the Hep B series or Booster immunity is not attained, the requirement has been met
 OR
 - B. Confirmed immunity by serologic test*
OR
 - C. Written waiver or letter from primary care provider stating medical reason for exemption

9. INFLUENZA VACCINE (ANNUALLY):
 - A. Due by October 15 each fall semester.
OR
 - B. Written waiver or letter from primary care provider stating medical reason for exemption.

References

Texas Administrative Code (2010, May). Rule 97.64: Required vaccinations for students enrolled in health-related and veterinary courses in institutions of higher education. Retrieved from [http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=25&pt=1&ch=97&rl=64](http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=25&pt=1&ch=97&rl=64)

*Original adopted by Faculty Association 1996;
Revised & Adopted by Faculty Association 5/12/1999; 6/1/2005; 9/14/2013; 10/20/2014, 12/4/2015*

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INFLUENZA VACCINATION POLICY

All students enrolled in the LU undergraduate nursing programs are required to submit documentation of having received the influenza immunization. The documentation is due to the Information Center by October 15 each year.

Students beginning the program in the spring will be expected to have their influenza vaccine prior to the first class day. In subsequent fall semesters after the initial spring admission, proof of this vaccine will be due by October 15 each year.

Students requiring an exemption due to medical (such as allergy) or religious reasons must present documentation to that effect. (Students must present requests for exemption to the Director of Undergraduate Nursing Studies.)

Students with an exemption will be required to wear a mask in patient areas during the peak of the flu season or for the length of time required by the clinical practicum facility. Some facilities will not permit students, including students with an exemption, to attend practicum without an influenza immunization. If another practicum site cannot be secured, students with an influenza exemption will need to withdraw from the related didactic and practicum courses.

Enforcement

Current students who fail to submit documentation by October 15, will not be allowed to attend practicum, will receive an unexcused absence for one missed day, and placed on a contract. A second missed day for this reason would result in violation of the contract, resulting in possible course failure.

Approved Faculty Association 9/14/2012, Revised 10/20/2014; 12/4/2015