

 <p>Category: Health</p> <p>Policy applicable for: Degree-seeking undergraduate, graduate and professional students and all incoming international students at all UC campuses</p>	<p><i>Policy Title:</i> Student Immunization and Health Screening</p> <p>Effective Date: 08/04/2024</p> <p>Enabling Acts: Centers for Disease Control & Prevention American College Health Association Ohio Department of Health Ohio Revised Code</p>	<p><i>Policy Number:</i> #4.9.1</p> <p>~Policy Owner: Sr. VP for Health Affairs, University Health Services (UHS), COM Dept. of Family and Community Medicine (DFCM)</p> <p>Responsible Office(s): University Health Services, Student Affairs, Enrollment Management, UC International, Graduate School, Academic Health Center</p>
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BACKGROUND

The University of Cincinnati (“UC” or the “University”) has immunization and health screening requirements to protect the health of individual students and all students as part of the larger campus community.

Infectious diseases are of particular concern to universities due to the large number of students living, studying and working together in close quarters.

These requirements are based upon national and state recommendations and requirements from the: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American College Health Association (ACHA), Ohio Department of Health (ODH), and Ohio Revised Code.

POLICY

Scope and General Requirements

- **Scope** of the UC policy:
 1. All undergraduate, graduate, and professional students with in-person classes or campus activities or who otherwise regularly spend time physically on campus or in University facilities, including but not limited to all University housing, whether owned or leased.
 2. All incoming international students.
 3. Students in Distance Learning programs would not be included in these requirements unless they meet requirements under (1) above.
- **Individual Programs** may have additional requirements beyond those set forth in this Policy.

General Population Students

- **Required vaccines and health screening:**
 1. *Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)* – 2 doses OR antibody test confirming immunity
 2. *Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap)* – One adult booster given within the past 10 years
 3. *Varicella (chickenpox)* – 2 doses OR antibody test confirming immunity
 4. *Hepatitis B* – A completed 2 dose or 3 dose series OR antibody test confirming immunity
 5. *Meningococcal conjugate (ACWY)* – one dose given on or after 16th birthday if student will be younger than 22 years of age at the start of their first semester at UC
- **Recommended (but not required) vaccines:**
 1. *Coronavirus (Covid-19)*
 2. *Serogroup B meningococcal (MenB) vaccine*
 3. *Influenza*
 4. *Hepatitis A*
 5. *Polio*
 6. *Human papilloma virus*

Health Professions Students

- **Health Professions Students** are those University students who, through the course of their academic program and/or studies, will participate in any clinical or clinical laboratory setting.
- **Required Vaccines and Health Screenings**
 1. *Hepatitis B* – A completed 2-dose or 3-dose vaccine series followed by a QUANTITATIVE Hepatitis B Surface Antibody (HBSAB) test drawn 4 weeks or greater after last vaccine dose. If antibody test does not show immunity, a full series and repeat antibody test will be required.
 2. *Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)* – 2 doses OR antibody test confirming immunity
 3. *Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap)* – One adult booster given within the past 10 years
 4. *Varicella (chickenpox)* – 2 doses OR antibody test confirming immunity
 5. *Meningococcal conjugate (ACWY)* – one dose given on or after 16th birthday if student will be younger than 22 years of age at the start of their first semester with UC
 6. *Tuberculosis (TB) Screening* – Results of two-step (2) TB Skin Tests (TSTs) or (1) IGRA blood test placed within the past 3 months prior to clinical duties. Thereafter, students will need annual TB exposure and symptoms screening with subsequent TB testing if indicated. History of previous positive TB skin testing (≥ 10 mm induration) or (+) TB blood test must be accompanied by documentation of the evaluation and/or treatment of this condition (this includes documentation of TB Skin Testing, TB Blood Assay Lab Report, Chest X-ray Report, Documentation of TB treatment, etc.)

7. *Influenza* – one dose annually each fall
- **Recommended (but not required) vaccines:**
 1. *Coronavirus (Covid-19)* - Full vaccination series and any additional booster(s) required by the health systems that participate in your clinical education. Certain programs at the University have clinical and/or external placements that are a requirement for program completion. To the extent permitted by law, students enrolled in such programs will be expected to comply with all rules, policies, guidelines, and requirements of any third-party placement, including but not limited to vaccination and background check requirements. Any student's failure to comply with such third-party rules, policies, guidelines or requirements may result in the student not being able to complete and graduate from their program.
 2. *Serogroup B meningococcal (MenB) vaccine*
 3. *Hepatitis A*
 4. *Polio*
 5. *Human papilloma virus*

International Students

In addition to the general immunization requirements for General Population Students, all International Students are required to complete a TB risk assessment. Students at increased risk for TB will be required to undergo further assessment including a TB symptom check and additional testing including an IGRA blood test and/or chest x-ray. This additional assessment and testing should be done prior to arrival to the United States.

Additional Requirements of Third-Party Sites

In addition to UC's vaccination and health screening requirements, third party sites (e.g., clinical or clinical laboratory sites, co-op employers, student teaching placement sites, etc.) may have specific vaccination and health screening requirements for participation. Failure of any student to comply with all third-party site requirements may negatively impact the ability of such student to participate in that environment and, therefore, not meet all requirements of their educational program.

Annual Review

As needed, University Health Services, in consultation with the Cincinnati Health Department and UC Department of Family and Community Medicine, will review and update the above lists of vaccines required and recommended for UC students. These campus updates will be based on new recommendations from the CDC, ACHA and ODH.

Overview of Process

- Prior to admission, information about the immunization and health screening requirements will be communicated to potential students through various University outlets.
- When a student confirms acceptance of admission to the University, as part of the new student checklist, the student will be reminded of the immunization and health screening requirements and be notified of the process to comply.
- Submission of student data will be done electronically through a secure web portal.

- The electronic immunization information system will review the data provided by the student. The system should communicate regularly with the student regarding any missing immunizations or other issues.

Consequences of Non-Compliance

If an International Student is not compliant with the UC tuberculosis screening/testing process, the student will not be permitted to register for classes for the subsequent term(s) (e.g. if a student is non-compliant in Fall, then the student will not be able to register for Spring classes). Once a student has met the requirement, the student will be permitted to register. Certain programs may have additional consequences for non-compliance with immunization requirements and/or tuberculosis screenings that may affect participation in academic activities.

For all other instances of non-compliance, the University may take appropriate corrective action, including but not limited to prohibiting a student from registering for classes. Certain programs may have additional consequences for non-compliance with immunization requirements and/or tuberculosis screenings that may affect participation in academic activities

Exemption from Student Immunization Requirements

- Two types of exemptions to the University's vaccination and health screening requirements will be considered:
 1. **Medical exemption.** If a student is unable to satisfy their applicable vaccination/health screening requirements for medical reasons, the student must complete the UC-approved exemption request process. A signed form from a medical provider will be required.
 2. **Non-medical exemption.** If a student is unable to satisfy their applicable vaccination/health screening requirements due to non-medical reasons, the student must complete the UC-approved exemption request process.
- All exemption requests will be reviewed by an appropriate University representative, and the student will be informed of the final decision in a timely manner.
- Whether there is an outbreak of an infectious disease on campus will be determined by the University in consultation with local public health and infectious disease experts. Students who are granted an exemption will be asked to sign a form stating they agree to leave campus and not attend classes during an outbreak on campus. To protect the health of unvaccinated students during an outbreak, UHS will keep a list of students with exemptions and, after consulting with the local public health department, will inform the students of the need to leave the campus during an outbreak.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov)
 - CDC Vaccines and Preventable Diseases [Vaccines and Immunizations | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines)
 - CDC Recommended Immunization Schedules
 - Child and adolescent: [Birth-18 Years Immunization Schedule – Healthcare Providers | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/pdf/09-1617a.pdf)
 - Adults 19 and older: [Adult Immunization Schedule – Healthcare Providers | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/pdf/19-2317a.pdf)
- American College Health Association: [Home | American College Health Association \(ACHA\)](https://www.acha.org/)

- [Immunization Recommendations for College Students \(acha.org\)](#)
- [Tuberculosis Screening and Targeted Testing of College and University Students \(acha.org\)](#)
- Ohio Department of Health: [Ohio Department of Health | Ohio.gov | Ohio Department of Health](#)
 - [Summary Recommendations - Childhood and Adolescent Immunizations | Ohio Department of Health](#)
 - [Recommended Vaccines for College Students | Ohio Department of Health](#)
- Ohio Revised Code: [Section 3332.25 - Ohio Revised Code | Ohio Laws](#)
- Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC): [Tomorrow's Doctors, Tomorrow's Cures | AAMC](#)
 - AAMC Standardized Immunization Form: [download \(aamc.org\)](#)