

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS

Purpose:

To prevent the induction and spread of vaccine-preventable diseases among students and the surrounding community.

Scope:

This policy applies to all students enrolled for courses on-campus and/or remotely at the University of Illinois Springfield.

Authority:

Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs

Department of Public Health Act, [20 ILCS 2305/2](#)
Illinois College Student Immunization Act, [110 ILCS 20](#)
Control of Tuberculosis Code, [77 Ill. Adm. Code 696](#)
College Immunization Code, [77 Ill. Adm. Code 694](#)

Policy:

All students taking 1 credit hour or more, including those on the Peoria campus, born January 1st, 1957, or after, are required by Illinois law and the University of Illinois Springfield to provide proof of immunizations.

- **All students must** complete the Health Services "*Required Immunization Information*" acknowledgment accessible through the [UIS application status page](#) checklist
- **Domestic students must** submit the required immunizations by sending us a copy of a signed and dated school immunization record (from your high school, previous University, military record, or child health immunization record).
- **Students who were not born in the US must provide an International Certificate of Vaccination as approved by WHO: The World Health Organization.** This document is required as evidence for immunizations administered outside of the United States.
 - **Students not born in the US must have a Tuberculosis screening before the deadline.** Health Services will review and determine during the TB Screening if you are at risk of TB. If the risk of TB is present, the student will be required to complete the TB blood test. A certified English translation must accompany all medical records.

Immunizations:

Students **must** provide proof of 2 MMR's: 30 days apart, the first one being on or after the first birthday, and 3 TDs: the second dose **must** be at least 28 days after the first dose, the third dose **must** be at least six months after the second dose. One dose **must** be a Tdap, and the last dose **must** be within the previous 10 years. Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis (Tdap) and Tetanus-Diphtheria (TD) titers are not acceptable proof of immunity; actual proof of these immunizations is required. The meningococcal conjugate vaccine is required for all students under 22 years old; one dose on or after the 16th birthday.

Waivers:

Students may request a waiver based on religious grounds by completing the [IDPH Certificate of Religious Exemption](#), which **MUST** be completed and signed by the students' primary care provider. General philosophical or moral objection to immunization is **not** sufficient for a waiver on religious grounds.

If a **medical waiver** is requested, documentation of medical reasons, date waiver ends (if applicable), and the physician's signature is required. Immunization requirements and additional information are available on the Health Services website.

Definitions:

Enroll or enrolled

The student is a bonafide member of the University's student body receiving academic credit for on-campus and/or remote instruction.

Health care provider:

A healthcare provider is defined as a physician licensed to practice medicine (M.D. or D.O.), advanced practice nurse, physician assistant, pharmacist, local health authority, a registered nurse employed by a school, college, or University, or a vaccine provider recognized by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Processes/Procedures/Guidelines:

Any student requiring immunizations may schedule an appointment with Health Services to receive the necessary vaccines. There is a [charge](#) for immunization services provided.

Students who were not born in the US must schedule an appointment with Health Services for a tuberculosis screening to determine if a QuantiFERON®-TB Gold blood test ("QFT®") is necessary unless they provide prior treatment documentation. There is a [charge](#) for the blood test if completed in Health Services. TB Skin Tests (PPD) are **NOT** acceptable.

- Any student may submit TB blood test results within the previous 30 days from within the US if preferred over being completed in Health Services.
- Any medical record documents submitted must be certified in translation English.
- Students who have a positive blood test will be asked to return within 5 business days for a chest x-ray to screen for pulmonary TB. Any student ordered to complete a chest x-ray must do so within 5 business days. Students who have a prior history of TB or receiving treatment for TB should bring copies of all treatment records, including medical notes and laboratory reports, to their screening appointment.

The following documents, and more, can be found under the "Resources and Links" tab on the [Health Services webpage](#):

- Required Immunization Information form: [UIS application status page](#) or [Patient Portal](#)
- [Authorization for Disclosure of Confidential Health Care Information](#) form
- [Authorization and Consent for Treatment of Minors](#) form (If a student is less than 18 years of age when seeking medical care from Health Services, a parent or guardian must sign this form.)

Immunization and health records should be submitted in one of the following ways:

- Upload to the [UIS application status page](#), under the "Required Immunization Information" section.
- Fax to (217) 206-7779
- Mail or hand-deliver to Health Services – BSB 20, One University Plaza, Springfield, IL 62703
- Upload records to the [Patient Portal](#).

Exceptions:

Students born before 1957 are exempt from the Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) requirement. Students taking ONLINE-ONLY COURSES, *excluding remote*, classes are exempt from submitting all requirements. NOTE: If any student begins courses on campus, the online-only exemption is invalid, and immunization requirements must be fulfilled as described above.

Deadlines:

All immunization requirements must be on file in Health Services in BSB 20 before 5:00 p.m. by August 1st for the Fall, December 1st for the Spring, and May 1st for the Summer semesters to avoid a non-refundable fee.

Tuberculosis screening must be completed by the 10th day of class for the Fall and Spring semesters and the 5th day of class for the summer semester. Non-compliant students will receive a HOLD on their student account with a non-refundable non-compliance fee. While being non-compliant, the student may not drop/add classes during the semester or register for subsequent semesters. Once students fulfill the requirement, the hold on the student account will be lifted.

Contact:

For questions regarding this policy, contact [Health Services](#) or call (217) 206-6676.

COVID-19 Saliva Testing Requirements:

Until deemed unnecessary, **all students** who currently learn, live, work, or train on the UIS campus—including UIC and UI System individuals—**must** participate in **weekly** COVID-19 testing (once or twice per week, depending on frequency on campus). Students who are learning or working remotely and are not otherwise scheduled to be on campus do not need to participate in weekly testing. However, any student learning or working remotely who needs to **visit the campus for any reason must** report to a testing site any day they come to campus, **at least once per week**. The free saliva-based testing is for ***non-symptomatic*** individuals who have ***not had a known exposure*** to COVID-19.

Students may use an outside vendor for COVID-19 testing at their own expense and can upload their testing documentation to their patient portal, similar to immunizations. These students must notify Health Services of any positive results.

Non-compliance will be addressed with the Dean of Students Office for students. Students who do not comply may be asked to learn remotely off-campus.

Additional Saliva Testing Information:

More information on testing is available at <https://www.uis.edu/covid-19/testing/>