Policy

UNIVERSITY POLICY SA-12.06-07/23

TO: The University of West Florida Community

FROM: Dr. Martha D. Saunders, President

SUBJECT: Immunization Requirements

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE: Division of Academic Engagement and Student Affairs

I. Purpose:

To set forth a policy pertaining to the immunization requirements and exceptions for the students of the University of West Florida.

II. Policy:

All students (including those that have transferred to UWF from another institution), both graduate and undergraduate, are required to meet the immunization requirements listed below prior to registration. UWF Student Health Services is responsible for oversight of immunization compliance and reserves the right to require immunizations based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Florida Department of Health, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, the Florida Board of Governors, or the UWF Board of Trustees. If the student is under the age of 18, the Immunization Health History Form must be signed by both the student and a parent or legal guardian.

A. Measles, Mumps, and Rubella

1. Requirements: All students born after December 31, 1956 must present documented proof of immunity to Measles (Rubeola) and German Measles (Rubella), in one of the two ways described below:

    a. Two (2) doses of MMR (Measles/Mumps/Rubella) vaccine.

        i. Vaccinations must have been received on or after your first birthday and at least 28 days apart.

        ii. Vaccinations must have been received after 1971.

    b. Proof of immunity by way of a positive laboratory test known as a titer (IgG Rubeola (Measles) titer and IgG Rubella titer). A copy of the lab report that includes the date of the test and laboratory value must be submitted.

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2. Exceptions: A student may apply for an exception to the immunization requirement for Measles, Mumps, and Rubella if the student meets one of the following criteria and submits the appropriate documentation:

   a. Medical Basis – The student must provide a letter from a healthcare provider, signed on official medical office stationery, stating the medical reason(s) why the student is not able to receive the Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Vaccine and indicating if this is a temporary or permanent condition.

   b. Religious Basis – The student (or the student's parent/guardian if under 18 years old) must provide a letter stating the student's religious beliefs do not permit him/her to receive vaccinations.

   c. On-line Students – Students who are enrolled in on-line courses only and who will not be physically present in any UWF classroom or on any UWF campus may complete the waiver section of the immunization form. Should such students seek to register for a face-to-face course, they must comply with Section II. A. above.

B. Meningitis and Hepatitis B

All UWF undergraduate and graduate students must provide documentation of vaccinations against Meningococcal Meningitis and Hepatitis B **OR** complete the Meningococcal Meningitis and/or Hepatitis B waiver section of the immunization form. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices currently recommends the meningitis vaccine for all students planning to live in campus dormitories or residence halls. Signing the waiver to decline one or both of these vaccines indicates that you have read the CDC's Vaccine Information Statement (available in a link at the UWF Student Health Services website located at www.uwf.edu/healthcenter) and understand the possible risk involved in not receiving this vaccine.

C. Documents Accepted as Evidence of Immunization

1. The following documents will be accepted as evidence of a student's immunization history provided they comply with state requirements and contain the name of the student (name of student on immunization history must match the name that is registered with UWF), date of birth, and the date when each immunization was administered.

   a. An official and permanent school record from another institution.

   b. A Florida Certification of Immunization Form (DH 680 Form) signed by a medical professional.
   c. Immunization Health History Form for UWF signed by a medical professional.

   d. Documentation of required vaccinations through U.S. Military.

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e. Childhood vaccination card/booklet as long as each vaccination is clearly recorded with the date of each vaccination. Each vaccination must be signed or initiated by the medical professional that administered the vaccine.

f. Official documentation from a medical facility, clinic, or pharmacy administering a required vaccine.

g. Completed Religious Exemption Form (DH 681 Form).

All students are required to upload their records through their Immunization Status App located in their my.uwf.edu account. UWF reserves the right to refuse registration to any applicant, former student, or student whose health record indicates the existence of a condition that may be harmful to the members of the UWF community.

Holds under this policy can only be lifted by the Vice President of the Division of Academic Engagement and Student Affairs, or designee.

Approved by: DocuSigned by: Martha Saunders D54A387C376848D... **Date:** 07/24/2023

Dr. Martha D. Saunders

Authority: Florida Board of Governors Regulations 6.001 and 6.007; Section 1006.69, Florida Statutes.

History: Adopted July 2001; amended April 2012, March 2015, June 2016, September 2022, and July, 2023.