Policy Title: Immunization Requirements

Reason for Policy/Purpose:
To set forth a policy on the immunization requirements and exceptions for the students of the University of West Florida.

Policy Statement:
All students, both graduate and undergraduate, are required to meet the immunization requirements listed below prior to registration.

I. Measles/Mumps and Rubella.

   A. 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 three ways described below:

      1. Proof of 2 doses of MMR (Measles/Mumps/Rubella) received at least 28 days apart or 2 doses of Measles and 1 dose of Rubella.

         a. Vaccinations must have been received after your first birthday.

         b. Vaccinations must have been received in 1969 or later.

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

      3. A written statement from a healthcare provider documenting a diagnosis of Measles may be substituted for Measles (Rubeola), but not Rubella. The statement must be on official medical office stationery, include the date of diagnosis, and be signed by a physician.
B. Exceptions: Student may apply for an exception to the immunization requirement for Measles/Mumps and Rubella if they meet one of the following criteria and submit the appropriate documentation.

1. 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/or Rubella vaccine(s), and indicating if this is a temporary or permanent condition.

2. 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.

3. Active Duty Military- Active duty military personnel may complete the waiver section of the immunization form if documentation of immunization is unavailable at the time of registration. Proof of military service is required.

4. 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 IA, above.

II. Meningitis and Hepatitis B.

A. UWF Student Health Services is responsible for oversight of student 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 Florida Board of Governors, or the UWF Board of Trustees. Detailed information about Meningococcal Meningitis and Hepatitis B, including the fatal nature of Meningococcal Meningitis and the risks associated with Hepatitis B, is provided on the UWF Student Health Services website at www.uwf.edu/healthcenter. This information shall include the availability, effectiveness, and known contraindications of any required or recommended vaccines.

B. All UWF undergraduate and graduate students, including on-line 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 indicating their informed decision not to be vaccinated for the appropriate declined vaccination. If the student is under the age of 18, the waiver form must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.
IV. Submission of Documentation.

Immunization forms including requests for exceptions (Measles/Mumps and Rubella), waiver forms (Meningitis and Hepatitis B), and other documentation must be presented in person or via mail, fax or email to the University of West Florida, Student Health Services, 11000 University Parkway, Pensacola, FL 32514. The email address is immunizations@uwf.edu and the fax number is (850) 857-6100. If the student is mailing documentation, the student must include his/her name, birth date and UWF ID number. Photocopies are acceptable. Originals will not be returned. If students have questions or need additional information about these illnesses or the vaccinations, they should visit the Student Health Services’ website at www.uwf.edu/healthcenter.

UWF reserves the right to refuse registration to any applicant, former student, or student whose health record indicates the existence of a condition which may be harmful to the members of the University community.

Change Justification:

This policy is being revised and updated for conformity with the Florida Board of Governors Regulations 6.001 General Admissions and 6.007 Vaccinations Against Meningococcal Meningitis and Hepatitis B.

Authority and Related Documents:

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

APPROVED: Dr. Judith A. Bense, President Date: 6/13/16

History:

SA-12.00-06/01 Immunization Requirements, adopted July 2001; amended by SA-12.02-04/12 Immunization Requirements, adopted April 2012; SA-12.03-02/15 Immunization Requirements, adopted March 2015; revised hereby.