Requirements for Health Science Students

The health science colleges met with SHW in April 2015 and made changes in the requirements for health science students to better match the standards for health care workers. These new requirements have been posted here but not required until the registration period occurs in April 2016. At that time, current and new students will need to meet the new requirements. The items with the ** are the new requirements that you may still need to complete.

**MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)**: (2) vaccines or positive antibody titres (blood tests) of all three diseases. (2) doses of each of the single component vaccines are acceptable. The first MMR must be given after the first birthday to be valid, and the MMR vaccines must be at least 28 days apart. For health science students, there is no age exemption for MMR.

**Hepatitis B**: (3) vaccine series, completed at the appropriate intervals, followed by antibody titre 4-8 weeks after third vaccine. The titre is REQUIRED, even if series was completed as a child. If antibody titre is negative, follow the algorithm form on our website for boosters and re-checking titre. It can be found on our Requirements & Forms page, in the Health Science Students section. If you have had the vaccines but do not have records, you can check the titre to see if you are immune.

**Varicella (chicken pox)**: (2) vaccines or positive antibody titre. If you had varicella as a child, you can check your titre for immunity.

**Tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis**: (1) Td (tetanus/diphtheria) at least every 10 years. New requirement is that you must have documentation of (1) Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine.

**TB (Tuberculosis) screening**: A two-step TB skin test (TST) is required; a blood test- IGRA (Interferon Gamma Release Assay- Quantiferon Gold or T-Spot) is an alternative. If you have never had any TB skin testing, the two-step TST is done as follows: The first test is placed, and results are read in 48-72 hrs. The second test is placed at least 7 days after the reading of the first test, and read at 48-72 hrs. Send documentation of both tests, and include placement date, reading date, result and mm induration.

- If you have documentation of (1) negative TST in the past 12 months, or documentation of (2) negative TSTs in your past, you need one more TST to meet the two-step requirement. The Registrar program is checking for the presence of (2) TSTs within the same year.

A TST or IGRA is also required annually, after the two-step is completed initially.

Those with a history of a positive TST or IGRA must provide a copy of the CXR (Chest x-ray) report. If treated for LTBI (Latent TB Infection), provide medication treatment dates. Students with a history of a positive TST are also required to complete a symptom assessment initially and annually. The TB Assessment Form is on our Requirements & Forms page, in the Health Science Students section.
**Health Screening:** Complete the Health Screening form once upon entry to the Health Science program. Can be signed by RN, MD, DO, PA, ARNP. The form is on our [Requirements & Forms page](#), in the Health Science Students section.

Other vaccines recommended by the CDC/ACIP and Student Health & Wellness:

- **Meningitis:** if initial vaccination was given before age 16, a booster is recommended
- **Influenza:** many rotation sites and hospitals require this annually
- **Hepatitis A:** (2) vaccine series
- **HPV** (human papilloma virus): (3)-vaccine series for males and females up to age 26

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