



## Immunization and Meningitis Information

NYS Public Health Law mandates that all students taking 6 or more credits born after December 31, 1956, must be immunized against Measles, Mumps, and Rubella. Students need to present proof of immunization or laboratory results indicating immunity against Measles, Mumps, and Rubella before registering for their classes. Proof of age must be submitted for those born prior to 1957. All students (regardless of age) must complete the Meningitis Response (page 2 of the MMR/Meningitis Form). Meningitis vaccination is not mandated; however, completion of the meningitis section of the form is **required**.

### Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Requirements

Public Health Law 2156 requires that student born after December 31, 1956 provide proof of the following immunizations in order to register for classes.

**TWO** Measles Vaccines given after 1968; on or after your first birthday; and at least 28 days apart.

**ONE** Mumps Vaccine given on or after your first birthday and dated 1969 or later.

**ONE** Rubella Vaccine given on or after your first birthday and dated 1969 or later.

Or

**TWO MMR** vaccines given after 1972; on or after your first birthday; and at least 28 days apart.

Or

**Blood test (MMR titer)** showing immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella. A legible copy of the original lab report must be submitted to the Medical Service Office.

### Records Must

- Clearly indicate the type of vaccine, dates of vaccine, and name and address of the doctor or clinic.
- Be stamped and signed by the doctor or clinic. (**Records will not be accepted if they do not meet these requirements**)

### Acceptable proof of immunity may include

1. Immunization cards from childhood.
2. Immunization records from college, high school, or other schools you attended.
3. Immunization records from your health care provider or clinic.

### Exemptions

If you are requesting an exemption, you must provide the requested proof – Approval is not automatic.

- **Medical Exemptions** – (Temporary or Permanent) Requires formal letter from a NY State licensed physician detailing condition(s), which vaccine cannot be taken and the duration of the exemption
- **Religious** – Students with prior deeply held religious aversions may request a waiver by submitting a **detailed** request.

### Meningitis Information

Public Health Law 2167 requires all colleges to provide information on Meningitis and the Meningitis Vaccine. Meningitis is rare. When it strikes, however, its flu-like symptoms make diagnosis difficult. If not treated early, meningitis can lead to swelling of the fluid surrounding the brain and spinal column as well as severe and permanent disabilities, such as hearing loss, brain damage, seizures, limb amputation, and even death. Cases of meningitis among teens and young adults 15 to 24 years of age (the age of most college students) have more than doubled since 1991.

The Quadrivalent Meningitis Vaccine is available that protects against four types of the bacteria that cause meningitis in the United States- types A, C, Y, and W-135. These types account for nearly two-thirds of meningitis cases among college students. Vaccines are available from your primary care physician. You can visit the CDC Travel Clinic website ([www.istm.org](http://www.istm.org)) for a list of clinics that have the Meningitis Vaccine available.

To learn more about Meningitis and the Meningitis Vaccine and other immunizations for college students, please feel free to contact our Health Service Center and/or consult your personal physician. You can also find information on the following websites:

New York State Department of Health: [www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization](http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines>

American College Health Association (ACHA): [www.acha.org](http://www.acha.org)