



# Policy 6004: Immunization Policy Procedures

## **I. Immunization Record Requirements**

A. All Mason students born after December 31, 1956 must provide proof of compliance with immunization requirements mandated by the Commonwealth of Virginia and George Mason University. Students must have:

- Two (2) doses of the MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) vaccine are required at least 1 month apart. First dose must be given on or after one year of age; and after 1971 (for combined MMR) vaccine or after 1967 (for individual doses).
- Tetanus/Diphtheria (Td) vaccine within the last 10 years or Tetanus Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap) within the last 10 years
- Documentation of 3 doses of Hepatitis B or a titer report (blood test) showing positive immunity OR A signed [waiver](#) (located in the list of immunization forms)
- Meningococcal - must receive vaccine between the ages of 16-21\* or a signed [waiver](#) (located in the list of immunization forms) \*Students 22 years of age or older are not required to have the meningococcal vaccine.
- [Tuberculosis \(TB\) Screening Questionnaire](#) is required for **all students** as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Virginia Department of Health. The Tuberculin screening questionnaire must be completed and submitted within the last 6 months (located in the list of immunization forms). If a student answers 'yes' to any question in the TB Screening section, a Tuberculosis skin test (TST) or Blood test must be performed in the United States within 6 months of school enrollment. If the TB test is positive or the student has a documented history of positive TB, the Immunization Office must have a copy of the test results along with a copy of the most recent chest x-ray report. If a student received treatment for TB or Latent TB Infection (LTBI) the student must provide documentation of medication, date started, and date completed.

**B. All immunizations must be verified by documentation.** It is not acceptable for a student to simply tell their doctor their immunization history. Proof of vaccination or immunity (through blood work) must be supported by documentation.

**C. To provide proof of immunization students must provide one or more of the following:**

1. Have their doctor complete and sign the Immunization Record Form (based on historical documentation);
2. Submit copies of documentation of previous vaccinations with appropriate signature(s);
3. Submit their immunization travel booklet; or
4. Submit a copy of any lab reports for titers, chest x-rays and/or medical treatment.

**D. Students who do not have any immunization records or can't find any records may:** check with their High School, parents, or previous University (excluding 2-year Community College), or military service branch for their records. If students are sure that they have been vaccinated against the measles, mumps, and rubella they can have titers drawn. A sample of the student's blood will be tested to determine the status of their immunity. If students do not have documentation proving that they have been vaccinated against tetanus and diphtheria they will have to be re-immunized. If they do not have documentation to support that they have been immunized against hepatitis B they may have a blood test or be re-immunized or sign a waiver stating they do not wish to do so. If students do not have documentation to support that they have been immunized against meningitis they can either get immunized or sign the waiver. The records which students locate may not be complete, they may still require additional immunizations.

E. If students are lacking any required immunizations, or their dates are inconsistent with mandated requirements, they may receive immunizations or titers:

1. in their home country (should provide their healthcare provider with the Mason Immunization Record Form),
2. at Mason's Student Health clinic, or
3. at another healthcare facility in the United States.

#### ***F. Immunization Record signature***

The Immunization Record form must be signed by a healthcare provider if the immunization records have been transcribed onto the form. The Immunization Record form does not need to be signed by a healthcare provider if the form is submitted to Student Health Services with a copy of the original records attached for verification.

#### ***G. Completed Immunization Records***

Send the forms to:

MAIL TO  
George Mason University  
Student Health Services  
4400 University Drive, MS 2D3  
Fairfax, VA 22030-4444

or FAX TO: 703-993-4053

or EMAIL TO: Immunize @gmu.edu

## **II. Immunization Requirements by Disease**

### ***A. Hepatitis B vaccine requirement***

According to Virginia State Law, students must either be immunized or show proof of positive immunity through blood test or sign a waiver indicating that they do not wish to be vaccinated against the disease and understand the risks. Signing the waiver does not mean the student cannot be

vaccinated in the future. Students must complete a series of 3 injections before they are considered completely immune to Hepatitis B.

***B. Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccinations/Disease as a child, validity***

The MMR is given during childhood and usually provides lifelong immunity, provided it was administered after 1967 and after a student's first birthday. Please note that all students must show documentation that they have had two doses of the Measles, two doses of the Mumps and two doses of the Rubella vaccine. A history of disease is NOT accepted. Students can do a blood test to show evidence that they built up enough immunity to the disease.

***C. Meningitis (Meningococcal) vaccine requirement***

Students under the age of 21, according to Virginia State Law, must receive a dose of a meningococcal at or after 16th birthday or sign a waiver indicating that they do not wish to be vaccinated against the disease.

***D. Tetanus and Diphtheria vaccinations***

Students will be unable to register without an up-to-date tetanus and diphtheria booster. The booster must be administered every 10 years. Students receiving their decennial booster must receive Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), or Td. Td and Tdap vaccines are readily available at Student Health Services for a minimal fee by appointment only.

***E. TB screening***

Tuberculosis screening is conducted through a questionnaire that the student identifies any possible risk factors, for tuberculosis infection and disease.

***Tuberculosis (TB) testing***

TB testing is a procedure for diagnosis of Latent TB Infection (LTBI). This test is performed by either a tuberculin skin test (TST) or a blood test (QuantiFeron or T-Spot).

***QFT test instead of TST***

A Quantiferon blood test is acceptable instead of the skin test. If a student chooses the blood test, he or she must send in a copy of the lab report with the immunization records.

***How old can the TB test be?***

If a tuberculin skin test is required, the test must be less than 6 months old from the first day of classes. A tuberculin skin test, a Quantiferon blood test, or a t-spot test will be accepted to meet the requirement. If a student has documentation of previous positive TB test, he or she must only provide documentation of history and chest x-ray report (and medication if taken).

### **III. Due Dates and Fees**

The due dates for the completed immunization record for the Spring and Summer/Fall semesters are available on the Student Health Services website and the official George Mason Calendar.

Those students who have not completed their records by the due date will incur a late fee and a hold will be placed on their student account. The fee must be paid through Student Health Services using check, credit card or Mason Money.