

**Midwestern State University
Wilson School of Nursing
Immunization and Infection Control Policy**

To comply with the Texas Administrative Code §97.61–97.77 all students, enrolled in health-related courses and will participate in coursework or clinical activities involving the contact with direct patient care and/or exposure to blood or bodily fluids must meet compliance with state-mandated immunizations. Students must complete state-mandated and WSON program requirements to engage in courses with a clinical/lab component.

It is the students' responsibility to make sure they are in compliance at all times with these immunizations throughout their time as a student enrolled in the WSON. Noncompliance will result in being administratively dropped from classes. Students seeking admission to the Wilson School of Nursing must be compliant with these immunizations.

Deadlines: Failure to meet deadlines established may result in a withdrawal and/or dismissal from the program. *It is the students' responsibility to make sure they are in compliance at all times with these immunizations throughout the nursing program.*

- Students seeking admission must be compliant with immunizations.
- Noncompliance with any of the immunizations, the student will be administratively dropped from classes, which in turn may result in a withdrawal and/or dismissal from the program.

Students must be in compliance at all times with the following immunizations while in the WSON program:

TETANUS/DIPHTHERIA (Td)

Students can be considered compliant for Tetanus/Diphtheria only if they have documentation of the following:

1. Tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis toxoid (Tdap) documented in the last 10 years, and at least one dose of Tdap after age 20. The booster **MUST** be in the form of a Tdap (tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis) vaccine.

MEASLES (RUBEOLA):

Students born on or after January 1, 1957, must show, prior to patient contact, acceptable evidence of vaccination of two doses of a measles-containing vaccine administered since January 1, 1968 (preferably MMR vaccine) or documentation of at least one of the following:

1. Born in 1957 or later must show official documentation of immunization with **TWO (2) DOSES** of measles containing live attenuated vaccine (preferably the MMR)
2. Laboratory (serologic) evidence of Measles immunity.

MUMPS

Students born on or after January 1, 1957, must show, prior to patient contact, acceptable evidence of vaccination of one dose of a mumps vaccine or documentation of at least one the following:

1. Born in 1957 or later must show official documentation of immunization with live Mumps virus vaccine with at least 1 dose of mumps containing live attenuated vaccine.
2. Laboratory (serologic) evidence of Mumps immunity.

RUBELLA (GERMAN MEASLES):

Students must show, prior to patient contact, acceptable evidence of one dose of rubella vaccine documentation of at least one of the following:

1. Born in 1957 or later must show official documentation of immunization with live Rubella virus vaccine with at least 1 dose of rubella containing live attenuated vaccine.
2. Laboratory (serologic) evidence of Rubella immunity.

VARICELLA (CHICKENPOX)

Students are required to have received one dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine on or after the student's first birthday or, if the first dose was administered on or after the student's thirteenth birthday, two doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine are required. Students can be considered compliant for Varicella only if they have documentation of at least one of the following:

1. Official documentation of one (1) dose of varicella vaccine after 1st birthday and before 13th birthday.
2. Official documentation of two (2) doses of varicella vaccine if initiated on or after 13th birthday.
3. Laboratory (serologic) evidence of Varicella immunity.
4. A written, dated statement documenting the month/day/year of varicella (chickenpox) illness validated by a physician, the student's parent, or school nurse. Use form located at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/docs/c-9.pdf>

HEPATITIS B

Students are required to receive a complete series of hepatitis B vaccine prior to the start of direct patient care or show serologic confirmation of immunity to Hepatitis B virus. Students can be considered compliant for Hepatitis B only if they have documentation of at least one of the following:

Texas Schedule for Hepatitis B Vaccination

1. **If vaccinated between age Birth through age 18:** Completed 3- or 4-dose series at the interval of:
 - a. 1st dose may be given at birth
 - b. 2nd dose at least 4 weeks after first dose
 - c. 3rd dose at least 8 weeks after second dose and at least 16 weeks after first dose
 - d. Minimum age for 3rd dose is 24 weeks
2. **If vaccinated between ages 19 through 59 years:** completed a 2- or 3- or 4-dose series
 - a. 2-dose series only applies when 2 doses of Heplisav-B are used at least 4 weeks apart
 - b. 3-dose series Engerix-B, PreHevbrio†, or RecombivaxHB at 0, 1, 6 months [minimum intervals: dose 1 to dose 2: 4 weeks / dose 2 to dose 3: 8 weeks / dose 1 to dose 3: 16 weeks]
 - c. 3-dose series HepA-HepB (Twinrix at 0, 1, 6 months [minimum intervals: dose 1 to dose 2: 4 weeks / dose 2 to dose 3: 5 months])
 - d. 4-dose series HepA-HepB (Twinrix) accelerated schedule of 3 doses at 0, 7, and 21–30 days, followed by a booster dose at 12 months

3. May upload a positive Hepatitis B titer instead of proof of vaccination

Official Documentation of Serologic evidence of immunity to Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) Vaccine, Varicella, & Hepatitis B is acceptable. Student must present a valid laboratory report indicating confirmation of either immunity or infection. If titers are negative, a booster along with a valid laboratory report indicating immunity is required. All boosters must be completed and official documentation provided prior enrolling in courses with a clinical/lab component.

Required for Infection Control for all students enrolled in nursing courses:

TUBERCULIN SKIN TEST (TST)

Students INITIALLY can be considered compliant for tuberculin testing only if they have documentation of at least one of the following (required before beginning clinical rotations):

1. Official documentation of ONE (a, b, or c) of the following
 - a. Negative Tuberculosis Skin Test (TST) and completion of the Baseline Tuberculosis (TB) Assessment for Health Care Students form.

- b. A negative Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA), if unable to take a Tuberculosis Skin Test (TST) and completion of the Baseline Tuberculosis (TB) Assessment for Health Care Students form.
 - c. If the TST or the IGRA is positive, submit proof of a negative chest x-ray combined with a medical evaluation of negative TB status.
2. Each year after the initial compliance, the student must submit a completed Annual Tuberculosis (TB) Assessment Renewal for Health Care Students form.
3. Active/Latent tuberculosis infection: Documentation of treatment plan, monthly documentation of compliance and documentation of completed treatment. Failure to provide the proper documents will result in immediate loss of compliance and will be administratively removed from clinical courses.
4. Refusal of treatment – will be administratively removed from all nursing courses and will be unable to continue in the nursing program.

INFLUENZA

1. One dose of influenza vaccine annually is required for all students – must receive vaccine in the fall between Sept 1 and Nov 1.

All documents demonstrating proof of vaccine for immunization and Infection Control must be submitted to Certified Background to verification and compliance.

According to Texas Administrative Code 25 rule §97.64 Students, who claim to have had the complete series of a required vaccination, but have not properly documented them, cannot participate in coursework or clinical activities involving the contact with direct patient care and/or exposure to blood or bodily fluids in educational, medical, or dental care facilities.

All documents demonstrating proof of vaccine for immunization and Infection Control must be submitted to the third party company selected by the WSON for verification and compliance.

Failure to meet these requirements may result in the student having to withdrawal and/or dismissed from the nursing program.

Documentation of compliance includes: (Texas Administrative Code §97.68)

- a. Vaccines administered after September 1, 1991, shall include the month, day, and year each vaccine was administered.
- b. Documentation of vaccines administered that include the signature or stamp of the physician or his/her designee, or public health personnel, is acceptable.
- c. An official immunization record generated from a state or local health authority is acceptable.
- d. An official record received from school officials, including a record from another state, is acceptable.

Exclusions from compliance with the requirements are found in the Texas Administrative Code Rule §97.62. This includes medical reasons, and/or claims exclusion for reasons of conscience, including religious belief. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/default.shtm> for more information about immunizations. **NOTE:** Students who claim an *exclusion for reasons of conscience* may be excluded from school and/or clinical experiences in times of emergency or epidemic declared by the commissioner of public health and/or if a clinical site and/or institution does not accept a signed affidavit. A signed affidavit for “*exclusion for reason of conscience*” is valid for only two (2) years. In some instances further documentation may be required.

REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Tuberculosis (TB) screening is required for all incoming international students that were born in, resided in, or traveled to (one of the high risk countries) for more than three (3) months. If you have not received the required immunizations or TB testing or do not have the necessary documentation to prove that you've had the required immunizations and TB testing you will **NOT** be allowed to register for classes at Midwestern State University. See <http://www.cdc.gov/tb/> for more details.

TB test and/or Chest x-ray must be administered, interpreted, and reported in millimeters (mm) in the United States. Again, you must comply with these requirements before you can register for classes. Please review the adult immunization schedule at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/adult/adult-schedule.pdf>

FOR STUDENT ENROLLED IN HEALTH RELATED FIELDS

According to Texas Administrative Code 25 rule §97.64, students who claim to have had the complete series of a required vaccination, but have not properly documented them, cannot participate in coursework or clinical activities involving the contact with direct patient care and/or exposure to blood or bodily fluids in educational, medical, or dental care facilities.

- Students may not participate in coursework activity “...which will involve direct patient contact with potential exposure to blood or bodily fluids in educational, medical, or dental care facilities” until completing all required series.
- Exclusions from compliance with the requirements are found in the Texas Administrative Code Rule §97.62. This includes medical reasons, and/or claims exclusion for reasons of conscience, including religious belief. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/default.shtm> for more information about immunizations.
- **NOTE:** Students who claim an *exclusion for reasons of conscience* may be excluded from school and/or clinical experiences in times of emergency or epidemic declared by the commissioner of public health and/or if a clinical site and/or institution does not accept a signed affidavit. A signed affidavit for “*exclusion for reason of conscience*” is valid for only two (2) years. In some instances further documentation may be required.