

Student Immunization Policy

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, under the College Immunization Law, requires all students in the health sciences provide proof of immunity against:

- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella
- Tetanus
- Diphtheria,
- Acellular pertussis
- Hepatitis B (3-dose series)
- Varicella
- Certain students are also required to submit documentation of the quadrivalent meningitis vaccine.

NECO also requires

- COVID-19 vaccine
- Yearly *Mantoux test for tuberculosis. **A positive Mantoux test will require a report showing a negative chest X-ray. An annual report from a physician is required to prove that you continue to be disease-free. Students who had the BCG vaccination as a child may have Quantiferon Gold blood test in place of the Mantoux test.*
- **CPR certification:** A mandatory CPR course will be given to all students within the first two weeks of class, regardless of prior certification. Questions regarding CPR may be directed to Tracy Kelley in the Clinical Education Office at 617-587-5656 or kelleyt@neco.edu.

You may be required to have additional immunizations or testing at clinical placements throughout the duration of your enrollment. The clinical affiliations that the College has with various hospitals, health centers, and Veteran Administration Hospitals require these immunizations and tests before any clinical activity. **Since clinical responsibilities begin early in the first semester of the first year, these immunizations and TB tests are required** before you arrive **at the College.**

Acceptable immunization documents consist of one of the following:

- Completion of the NECO student immunization form with the signature of a physician or registered nurse.
- Physician's statement showing the month, day, and year during which the vaccinations were administered, or specific antibody titer determined.
- Copy of a dated and signed immunization record from high school or another post-secondary institution.
- Copy of your COVID-19 Vaccination Record card that shows what COVID-19 vaccine you received, the date you received it, and where you received it.

Exemptions from Immunizations

Exemptions from immunizations for clinical requirements can be made only for certain medical conditions, such as health circumstances that contraindicate immunization, pregnancy, or participation in a current sequence of immunizations. A written statement from a physician is necessary for **all** health circumstances.

Instructions for submission

Review the Student Immunization form before contacting your Health Care Provider and make sure that the instructions on the form are followed. You will not be allowed to participate in required clinical assignments, and your registration will be considered conditional until all immunization requirements have been fulfilled.

- Please submit this completed form via **Med+Proctor.**
- You will receive login information by email to upload this form into the Med+Proctor system. The form must be completed in English.
- This form with any attached documentation must be returned before the following dates:
 - ASIP, AODP, MS/OD China, PhD/OD China Programs: **Friday, April 7, 2023**
 - Four-Year Doctor of Optometry Program, MS in Vision Science: **Friday, July 21, 2023**

If you have any questions about this form, please email CAPA@neco.edu.

