

VACCINATION POLICIES:

Preventative immunizations services are available including measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR), Hepatitis B, Meningococcal vaccine, tetanus and tuberculosis screening on a reasonable priced fee for service basis. To attend a post-secondary institution in New York, every student born after January 1, 1957, who is taking 6 or more credit hours, must show proof of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella (German Measles).

Acceptable forms of proof:

- An official school, state, country or national immunization record verifying 2 MMRs.
- A blood test showing immunity to those diseases, with a titer clearly stated.
- A written history, health care provider signed with documentation of 2 MMRs.
- A written history, health care provider signed documenting having had the disease.

In the event that you are not immune, or have not been immunized according the New York State requirements, you must be vaccinated so that you can attend classes and receive your grades. New York State also requires that you receive information concerning meningococcal meningitis disease and the available vaccine. The Conservatory is required to document that you have received this information and have either had the vaccine or decline the vaccine.

Requirements

	First Dose	Second Dose
MEASLES: Proof of TWO (2) measles shots is required.	First dose must have been administered on or after your first birthday.	Second dose must have been administered at least 30 days after your first dose.
MUMPS: proof of ONE (1) vaccination is required.	First dose must have been administered on or after your first birthday.	
RUBELLA: proof of ONE (1) vaccination is required.	First dose must have been administered on or after your first birthday.	
Or		
MMR (measles, mumps, rubella in one shot): proof of TWO (2) MMR shots is required	First dose must have been administered on or after your first birthday.	Second dose must have been administered at least 30 days after your first dose.

- Please be sure to provide **the dates of these vaccinations** along with a medical provider’s signature as indicated on the Health History Forms
- If you have a **history of a medically diagnosed disease for either the measles or mumps** you will *not* need to present proof of having received these vaccinations. Documentation must be verified by a medical provider as indicated on the immunization form. **This is not true for Rubella.**
- If you are unable to obtain the necessary medical provider signature or immunization documentation, an alternative would be to have a **Blood Antibody Titer** drawn. This lab test measures the level of measles, mumps, and rubella antibodies in your blood. Should you choose this option, please attach a copy of the lab results along with the immunization form. Additionally, any result other than a Positive result (i.e. an equivocal result) will be deemed non-compliant.
- Students who have **attended elementary or secondary school in the United States after December 31, 1980**, may submit proof of such attendance (e.g. high school diploma or transcript) as proof of having received **one measles virus vaccine only**. However, such proof must be accompanied by documentation proving receipt of a **second vaccination no more than one year prior to attendance at NYCDA.**

Exemptions from Immunization Requirements

Medical Exemption

If a licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner, or licensed midwife caring for a pregnant student certifies in writing that the student has a health condition which is a valid contraindication to receiving a specific vaccine, then a permanent or temporary (for resolvable conditions such as pregnancy) exemption may be granted. This statement must specify those immunizations which may be detrimental and the length of time they may be detrimental. Provisions need to be made to review records of temporarily exempted persons periodically to see if contraindications still exist. In the event of an outbreak, medically exempt individuals should be protected from exposure. This may include exclusion from classes or campus.

Religious Exemption

A student may be exempt from vaccination if, in the opinion of the institution, that student or student's parent(s) or guardian of those less than 18 years old holds genuine and sincere religious beliefs which are contrary to the practice of immunization. The student requesting exemption may or may not be a member of an established religious organization. Requests for exemptions must be written and signed by the student if 18 years of age or older, or parent(s), or guardian if under the age of 18. The institution may require supporting documents. It is not required that a religious exemption statement be notarized. In the event of an outbreak, religiously exempt individuals should be protected from exposure. This may include exclusion from classes or campus.

In Process

A student is considered in process and allowed to attend classes if he/she has presented a Certificate of Immunization that shows the student is in the process of completing the immunization requirements of PHL Section 2165.

To be "in process" the student must have received at least one dose of live measles virus vaccine, have complied with the requirements for mumps and rubella, and have an appointment to return to a health practitioner for the second dose of measles if this appointment is scheduled no more than 90 days since administration of the first dose of measles virus vaccine.

A student can be considered in process of complying with PHL Section 2167 regarding meningococcal disease until the maximum 30 day grace period has elapsed. The 30 day grace period may be extended to 60 days if a student can show a good faith effort to comply with PHL Section 2167. If a student is granted the extended grace period, then exclusion begins immediately after the 60 days elapses.

Exclusion

"Exclusion" is the process whereby noncompliant students are not permitted continued attendance at the institution; whereas, "attendance" means the student's physical presence on campus (i.e., exclusion from classes, dorm residence and other curricular and extra-curricular campus activities). Exclusion should begin immediately after a 30 day grace period as stipulated under PHL Section 2165 (measles, mumps and rubella requirements), or after 45 days if a student is from out of state or from another country and can show a good faith effort to comply, or when a disease outbreak occurs.

For institutions to be in compliance with PHL Section 2167 (meningococcal meningitis response form), exclusion of students should begin immediately after the 30 day grace period elapses. The 30 day grace period may be extended to 60 days if a student can show a good faith effort to comply with PHL Section 2167. If a student is granted the extended grace period, then exclusion begins immediately after the 60 days elapse.

Enforcement of Public Health Law

Under PHL Section 206, the NYSDOH Immunization Program has the legal authority to ensure that schools throughout the state comply with PHL Sections 2165 and 2167. PHL Section 2165 requires that:

No institution shall permit any student to attend such institution in excess of thirty days without complying with subdivision two of this section. However, such thirty day period may be extended to not more than forty-five days for a student where such student is from out-of-state or from another country and can show a good faith effort to provide a certificate of immunization.

PHL Section 2167 requires that:

No institution shall permit any student to attend the institution in excess of thirty days without complying with this section: provided, however, that such thirty day period may be extended to not more than sixty days if a student can show a good faith effort to comply with this section.

Findings of violations of PHL Sections 2165 and 2167 may result in the imposition of a civil penalty of up to \$2,000 per each student who is permitted to attend school in violation of these requirements.

<http://www.health.state.ny.us/prevention/immunization/handbook/>

http://www.health.state.ny.us/prevention/immunization/handbook/section_1_requirements.htm