

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

IMMUNIZATION POLICY

Number 03.03.02

Division Student Affairs – Dean of Students

Date December 1, 2014; reviewed and revised June 28, 2023

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the effective and appropriate management of immunizations at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (“University”).

Policy

To provide a safe and healthy environment for all students, faculty and staff at the University, and in accordance with the recommendations of the Alabama Department of Public Health (“ADPH”) and American College Health Association (“ACHA”), the University requires immunizations as set forth herein.

Other University Policies: The University’s Communicable Disease Policy should also be consulted.

Implementation Responsibility: Responsibility for the implementation of this policy will rest with the Student Health Center as it pertains to students, and the Faculty and Staff Clinic as it pertains to the employees and short-term visitors identified herein.

STUDENTS

All students admitted and enrolled for on-campus coursework shall comply with all immunization and documentation requirements at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of classes. If a student has not fulfilled the requirements, a hold will be placed on the student’s University account after the tenth (10th) day of the start of the semester.

Immunization Requirements (Required vaccinations and screening):

Measles, mumps, and rubella vaccination

All students must provide proof of two doses of an immunization against measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) given any time after the 1st birthday; or other evidence of immunity. Evidence of immunity may include a birth date prior to 1957 (except health care personnel) or laboratory evidence of immunity or laboratory confirmation of disease.

Meningococcal-ACWY vaccination

All students 21 and younger must provide proof of an immunization against meningococcal ACWY (Menactra, Menveo, or MenQuadfi) given any time after the 16th birthday, even if a vaccine dose was given at a younger age.

All students 22 and older are exempt from this requirement.

Tuberculosis Screening Questionnaire

Students must be screened for tuberculosis (“TB”) before the first semester of attendance at the University. Testing may be required based upon information provided on the tuberculosis screening form. If deemed necessary, TB testing must be done in the US. Students who are screened and found to have a positive screening test must complete follow-up testing to determine that there is no active tuberculosis disease. During this time, the activity of the student may be restricted. These determinations will be made on a case by case basis.

Documentation Requirements: All students must submit completed immunization forms and supporting documentation to the Student Health Center.

NEW INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYEES

All new international faculty, scholars, or staff (foreign-born, non-United States citizens who are not permanent residents), including but not limited to visiting individuals participating in international exchange programs, international fellowship programs, etc., must be screened for tuberculosis before beginning their programs or participating in University-sanctioned activities. Such employees who are found to have a positive screening test must complete follow-up testing to determine whether or not there is any active tuberculosis disease. During this time, the activity of the employee may be restricted. These determinations will be made on a case by case basis. If active tuberculosis is confirmed by tests, the individual will be subject to the imposition of appropriate restrictions.

Documentation Requirements: All new international employees must submit completed screening forms and supporting documentation to the Faculty and Staff Clinic.

SHORT-TERM VISITORS

Screening for international short-term visitors to campus will be determined by the Communicable Diseases Management Team (“CDMT”) based upon the length of stay and risk. University individuals planning to bring international visitors to campus should contact immunizations@uah.edu

Exceptions

Exceptions to this policy may be made in limited circumstances for students who can document medical and/or other contraindications to the vaccine. Requests for exceptions must be submitted to UAH Student Health Services for consideration and approval.

Students enrolled in online only classes, with no on-campus classes, are exempted from these requirements.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every five (5) years by the Student Health Center, the Dean of Students, Faculty and Staff Clinic, and the Communicable Diseases Management Team, or more frequently if organization or situational changes warrant.