

**CAROLINAS COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
POLICY & PROCEDURE**

Section II-Academic/Student

SUBJECT: HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND IMMUNIZATIONS *FOR STUDENTS*

REVIEWER(S): Dean, Student *Affairs* and Enrollment Management

Related Policies to Consult:

CCHS Policies: [Alcohol/Drug/Tobacco Use and Psychological Stability \(Sec. I\)](#)
[Admission Selection Process \(Sec. II\)](#)
[Application and Admission Criteria \(Sec. II\)](#)
[Admissions \(Board Policy\)](#)

I. POLICY

The College requires that all students seeking enrollment in a healthcare program with a clinical component have a physical and emotional health assessment. These students, as well as those enrolled in non-clinical programs, must also demonstrate compliance with immunizations and drug-free workplace policies of Carolinas Healthcare System.

II. PROCEDURE

A. Upon notification of conditional acceptance into a healthcare program of study which contains a clinical component:

1. Students will receive instructions on providing immunization information and completing a baseline drug screen and *health* assessment. Students are instructed to contact CHS Teammate Health Services (Teammate Health) to make an appointment, submit immunization records, and complete the health assessment.

Teammate Health maintains these records and notifies the college when a student has completed the required assessments. Teammate Health or its designee will conduct the *health* assessment and ensure there are no barriers to students performing the essential functions of their designated program. Students assigned to a non-CHS facility for clinical experience will also meet the teammate health requirements for that facility. When feasible, and upon student request, Teammate Health will release copies of the student record to the non-CHS facility.

Students who may require accommodations will be referred to the dean of student *affairs*.

2. In addition to CHS requirements, students enrolling in a college program are generally responsible for compliance with the following immunization schedule as prescribed by North Carolina Administrative Code (GS 130A-152 through GS 130A-157). Exceptions may be allowed as provided for in the NC Administrative Codes.

- a) Students born in or after 1957:
 - Three (3) DPT (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) or Td (Tetanus-diphtheria) doses, one of which was administered in the last 10 years.
 - Two (2) Measles (Rubeola) doses on or after first birthday, OR positive Rubeola titer, OR physician documentation of measles diagnosis prior to 1/1/94.
 - Two (2) Rubella doses OR positive Rubella titer.
 - One (1) mumps vaccine on OR after first birthday or positive Mumps titer.
- b) Students born prior to 1957
 - Three (3) DPT (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) or Td (Tetanus-diphtheria) doses, one of which was administered in the last 10 years.
 - One (1) Rubella doses OR positive Rubella titer.
- c) Students age 50 or older
 - Three (3) DPT (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) or Td (Tetanus-diphtheria) doses, one of which was administered in the last 10 years.

3. Students who need to complete a series of immunizations will be granted conditional acceptance until series is complete.
 4. Students who are in progress with a series of immunizations will receive written reminders from Teammate Health. Failure to comply and submit documentation to Teammate Health within 30 days of eligibility date could result in withdrawal from classes.
 5. The student's health history will be assessed for immunity to varicella (chicken pox). Students who are unable to confirm immunity, either by disease or by blood titers will be advised of exposure risks and advised to seek immunization.
 6. Medical exemptions as noted in 15A NCAC 19A.0400 must be documented by a healthcare provider.
 7. Religious exemptions should be requested through the dean of student *affairs*.
 8. Students who are not actively enrolled in a program for more than six months will be required to complete a new Physical and Emotional Health Assessment and have immunizations updated as necessary prior to re-entry. A health assessment will not be required of students returning to a healthcare program after a period of non-attendance of six months or less, but immunizations will be reviewed by Teammate Health and the student will be notified of the need for booster updates.
 9. Students who are current CHS teammates must contact Teammate Health for verification of an acceptable health assessment/drug screen.
- B. Post admission immunization requirements. (Applicable to all healthcare program students.)
1. Tuberculosis testing (free of charge to student): Students are required to receive a tuberculin skin test (TST) prior to registration/orientation from CHS Teammate Health or designee. The TST will be read within 48 - 72 hours by a RN, LPN, or MD and results returned to CHS Teammate Health. TSTs are re-administered approximately 10 days later by CHS Teammate Health to identify previous false negatives. Students with a previous history of a positive TST will be directed to CHS Teammate Health for further evaluation. Students unable to demonstrate a negative TST or chest X-ray will be referred to CHS Teammate Health and handled on a case-by-case basis. Documentation of TST administration and results are maintained by Teammate Health. The initial two-step TST is only valid until the next birthday. If the birthday occurs within three months of the initial series, the TST is waived until the next birthday. A single TST is due on the individual's birthday in all subsequent years.
 2. Hepatitis B immunization (free of charge to students): Students participating in courses which include a clinical component are required to be immunized against Hepatitis B or sign a waiver form.
 - Students sign the appropriate consent forms prior to receiving the first dose during orientation. The second dose will be provided two months later and the third dose, three months after the second. Documentation of Hepatitis B administration is maintained by Teammate Health. A student who does not complete the series and subsequently returns to the college may need to start the series again.
- C. Drug Screening
1. Applicants to health care programs are informed of the drug screen procedure via pre-application information.
 2. Students conditionally accepted to a health care program which includes clinical activities receive drug screen scheduling instructions from the admissions coordinator. Students are expected to have the drug screen completed prior to the start of the program, an extension may be granted if needed but must be completed prior to attending clinical. Teammate Health or their designee will maintain a database of drug screen results for each class. A drug screen found to be positive (not accepted) on the first test is considered a first positive. Subsequent testing may be conducted by Teammate Health.

3. Students returning to a health care program after any period of non-attendance may be required to provide verification of a negative ("acceptable") drug and alcohol assessment by Teammate Health.
 4. Refusal or failure to complete the required *health* assessment, drug screen or a positive "not accepted) finding will result in the college's withdrawal of conditional acceptance. The "first positive" finding may result in withdrawal of conditional acceptance or delay of enrollment.
- D. In any situation not addressed in this policy, or in any situation where there is a conflict between CHS Human Resources or a Teammate Health policy, the CHS policy will prevail if the student is enrolled in a clinically-based healthcare program.
- E. The Health Assessment and Immunizations *for Students* policy and procedure will be reviewed bi-annually.

III. APPROVAL

Name: _____ Title: President Date: _____