



Please complete with your health care provider and return to the New Student Immunization Program at University Health Services (UHS) before you arrive on campus. You may attach additional immunization information from other schools or medical offices. Responses must be in English.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Student ID#: _____ Date of birth: _____
 Home phone number: _____ Cell phone number: _____ Sex: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State/Zip: _____
 Month/year entering university: _____ Country of origin: _____ Date of entry into U.S. _____
 Were you ever seen at UHS as a patient? Yes No If yes, approximate year? _____

IMMUNIZATIONS

1 Tetanus/Diphtheria
 (Must be within the last 10 years.)
 The UMass Amherst School of Nursing requires Tdap for its students.
 Primary series Yes No (DTP/DTAP, DT or Td)
 Tdap (preferred) _____
 OR Td _____

2 **Hepatitis B** (0, 1, 4 months)
 or A/B Vaccine (0, 1, 6-12 months)
 (Check vaccine given.)
 #1 _____ (Must be at least 1 month after #1.)
 #2 _____ (Must be at least 2 months after #2 and 4 months after #1.)
 #3 _____

OR two doses of Merck Recombivax 10 mcg. (age 11-15)
 #1 _____ (Must be 4 month interval between doses.)
 #2 _____

3 Meningococcal (Meningitis) Vaccination (Must have had vaccine within last 5 years or sign DPH waiver at the bottom of this page.)
 Menomune (MPSV4) _____
 OR Menactra (MCV4) _____
 OR Waiver signed
 OR Off-campus resident (exempt)
 See important information on meningitis, pages 4-5.

4 Measles, Mumps, Rubella Vaccine (First dose must be after age 12 months; 2 doses required. Doses must be at least 28 days apart.)
 MMR #1 _____
 MMR #2 _____
 OR
 Measles vaccine #1 _____
 Measles vaccine #2 _____
 Mumps vaccine _____
 Rubella vaccine _____

OR Positive Blood Test Titers are accepted in lieu of documented vaccinations #2 and #4 (Hepatitis B and MMR). Laboratory documentation must be provided.
 Hepatitis B titer
 Result _____
 Measles (Rubeola) titer
 Result _____
 Mumps titer
 Result _____
 Rubella titer
 Result _____
 Diagnosis of disease is not acceptable.

WAIVER FOR MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINATION REQUIREMENT

I have received and reviewed the information provided on the risks of meningococcal disease and the risks and benefits of meningococcal vaccine. I understand that Massachusetts' law requires newly enrolled full-time students at secondary schools, colleges and universities who are living in a dormitory or congregate living arrangement licensed or approved by the secondary school or postsecondary institution to receive meningococcal vaccinations, unless the students provide a signed waiver of the vaccination or otherwise qualify for one of the exemptions specified in the law.

After reviewing the materials on the dangers of meningococcal disease, I choose to waive receipt of meningococcal vaccine.

Student Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Student ID _____
 Signature _____ Date _____
 (Student or parent/legal guardian, if student is under 18 years of age)

If you answered **YES** to questions **4, 5 or 6** of the Tuberculosis Risk Questionnaire, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health strongly recommends that you have a skin test for latent TB infection.

If you answered **NO** to these questions, a TB skin test is not recommended at this time.

COUNTRIES WITH HIGH RATES OF TUBERCULOSIS (TB)*

Afghanistan	El Salvador	Malaysia	Saudi Arabia
Algeria	Equatorial Guinea	Maldives	Senegal
Angola	Eritrea	Mali	Seychelles
Anguilla	Estonia	Marshall Islands	Sierra Leone
Argentina	Ethiopia	Mauritania	Singapore
Armenia	Fiji	Mauritius	Solomon Islands
Azerbaijan	French Polynesia	Mexico	Somalia
Bahamas	Gabon	Micronesia	South Africa
Bahrain	Gambia	Moldova – Rep.	Spain
Bangladesh	Georgia	Mongolia	Sri Lanka
Belarus	Ghana	Montenegro	Sudan
Belize	Guam	Morocco	Suriname
Benin	Guatemala	Mozambique	Syrian Arab Republic
Bhutan	Guinea	Myanmar	Swaziland
Bolivia	Guinea – Bissau	Namibia	Tajikistan
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Guyana	Nauru	Tanzania – UR
Botswana	Haiti	Nepal	Thailand
Brazil	Honduras	New Caledonia	Timor – Leste
Brunei Darussalam	India	Nicaragua	Togo
Bulgaria	Indonesia	Niger	Tokelau
Burkina Faso	Iran	Nigeria	Tonga
Burundi	Iraq	Niue	Tunisia
Cambodia	Japan	N. Mariana Islands	Turkey
Cameroon	Kazakhstan	Pakistan	Turkmenistan
Cape Verde	Kenya	Palau	Tuvalu
Central African Rep.	Kiribati	Panama	Uganda
Chad	Korea – DPR	Papua New Guinea	Ukraine
China	Korea – Republic	Paraguay	Uruguay
Colombia	Kuwait	Peru	Uzbekistan
Comoros	Kyrgyzstan	Philippines	Vanuatu
Congo	Lao PDR	Poland	Venezuela
Congo DR	Latvia	Portugal	Viet Nam
Cote d'Ivoire	Lesotho	Qatar	Wallis & Futuna Islands
Croatia	Liberia	Romania	W. Bank & Gaza Strip
Djibouti	Lithuania	Russian Federation	Yemen
Dominican Republic	Macedonia – TFYR	Rwanda	Zambia
Ecuador	Madagascar	St. Vincent & The Grenadines	Zimbabwe
Egypt	Malawi	Sao Tome & Principe	

* Source: World Health Organization Global Tuberculosis Control, WHO Report 2006, Countries with Tuberculosis incidence rates of >20 cases per 100,000 population.



Information about Meningococcal Disease and Vaccination and Waiver for Students at Residential Schools and Colleges

Revised legislation in Massachusetts now requires all newly enrolled full-time students attending a secondary school (e.g., boarding schools) or postsecondary institution (e.g., colleges) who will be living in a dormitory or other congregate housing licensed or approved by the secondary school or institution to:

1. receive meningococcal vaccine; or
2. fall within one of the exemptions in the law, which are discussed on this sheet.

The law provides an exemption for students signing a waiver that reviews the dangers of meningococcal disease and indicates that the vaccination has been declined. To qualify for this exemption, you are required to review the information below and sign the waiver. Please note, if a student is under 18 years of age, a parent or legal guardian must be given a copy of this document and must sign the waiver.

What is meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal disease is caused by infection with bacteria called *Neisseria meningitidis*. These bacteria can infect the tissue that surrounds the brain and spinal cord called the "meninges" and cause meningitis, or they can infect the blood or other body organs. In the US, about 1,000-3,000 people get meningococcal disease each year and 10-15% die despite receiving antibiotic treatment. Of those who live, another 11-19% lose their arms or legs, become deaf, have problems with their nervous systems, become mentally retarded, or suffer seizures or strokes.

How is meningococcal disease spread?

These bacteria are passed from person-to-person through saliva (spit). You must be in close contact with an infected person's saliva in order for the bacteria to spread. Close contact includes activities such as kissing, sharing water bottles, sharing eating/drinking utensils or sharing cigarettes with someone who is infected; or being within 3-6 feet of someone who is infected and is coughing or sneezing.

Who is at most risk for getting meningococcal disease?

People who travel to certain parts of the world where the disease is very common are at risk, as are military recruits who live in close quarters. Children and adults with damaged or removed spleens or an inherited disorder called "terminal complement component deficiency" are at higher risk. People who live in settings such as college dormitories are also at greater risk of infection.

Are some students in college and secondary schools at risk for meningococcal disease?

College freshmen living in residence halls or dormitories are at an increased risk for meningococcal disease as compared to individuals of the same age not attending college. The setting, combined with risk behaviors (such as alcohol consumption, exposure to cigarette smoke, sharing food or beverages, and activities involving the exchange of saliva), may be what puts college students at a greater risk for infection. There is insufficient information about whether new students in other congregate living situations (e.g., residential schools) may also be at increased risk for meningococcal disease. But, the similarity in their environments and some behaviors may increase their risk.

The risk of meningococcal disease for other college students, in particular older students and students who do not live in congregate housing, is not increased. However, meningococcal vaccine is a safe and efficacious way to reduce their risk of contracting this disease.

Is there a vaccine against meningococcal disease?

Yes, there are currently 2 vaccines available that protect against 4 of the most common of the 13 serogroups (subgroups) of *N. meningitidis* that cause serious disease. Meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine is approved for use in those 2 years of age and older and meningococcal conjugate vaccine is approved for use in those 2-55 years of age. Both of the vaccines provide protection against four serogroups of the bacteria, called groups A, C, Y and W-135. These four serogroups account for approximately two-thirds of the cases that occur in the U.S. each year. Most of the remaining one-third of the cases are caused by serogroup B, which is not contained in either vaccine. Protection with the meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine is not lifelong; it lasts about 3 to 5 years in healthy adults (some people may be protected longer.) The meningococcal conjugate vaccine is expected to help decrease disease transmission and provide more long-term protection.

Is the meningococcal vaccine safe?

A vaccine, like any medicine, is capable of causing serious problems such as severe allergic reactions. Getting meningococcal vaccine is much safer than getting the disease. Some people who get meningococcal vaccine have mild side effects, such as redness or pain where the shot was given. These symptoms usually last for 1-2 days. A small percentage of people who receive the vaccine develop a fever. The vaccine can be given to pregnant women.

A few cases of Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS), a rare but serious nervous system disorder, have been reported among people who received meningococcal conjugate vaccine. This information is still being evaluated by health officials. An ongoing risk of serious meningococcal disease exists. At this time, experts continue to recommend vaccination for those at increased risk of acquiring meningococcal disease. However, persons who have had GBS should generally not receive meningococcal conjugate vaccine, and should talk to their doctor about their other options for vaccination.

Is it mandatory for students to receive meningococcal vaccine for entry into secondary schools or colleges that provide or license housing?

Massachusetts law (MGL Ch. 76, s.15D) requires newly enrolled full-time students attending a secondary school (those schools with grades 9-12) or postsecondary institution (e.g., colleges) who will be living in a dormitory or other congregate housing licensed or approved by the secondary school or institution to receive meningococcal vaccine. At affected secondary schools, the requirements apply to all new full-time residential students, regardless of grade (including grades pre-K through 8) and year of study. All students covered by the regulations must provide documentation of having received a dose of meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine within the last 5 years (or a dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine at any time in the past), unless they qualify for one of the exemptions allowed by the law. Whenever possible, immunizations should be obtained prior to enrollment or registration. However, students may be enrolled or registered provided that the required immunizations are obtained within 30 days of registration.

Students may begin classes without a certificate of immunization against meningococcal disease if: 1) the student has a letter from a physician stating that there is a medical reason why he/she can't receive the vaccine; 2) the student (or the student's parent or legal guardian, if the student is a minor) presents a statement in writing that such vaccination is against his/her sincere religious belief; or 3) the student (or the student's parent or legal guardian, if the student is a minor) signs the waiver stating that the student has received information about the dangers of meningococcal disease, reviewed the information provided and elected to decline the vaccine.

Where can a student get vaccinated?

Students and their parents should contact their healthcare provider and make an appointment to discuss meningococcal disease, the benefits and risks of vaccination, and the availability of this vaccine. Schools and college health services are not required to provide you with this vaccine.

Where can I get more information?

- Your healthcare provider
- The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology and Immunization at (617) 983-6800 or www.mass.gov/dph/imm and www.mass.gov/dph/epi
- Your local health department (listed in the phone book under government)

*Provided by: Massachusetts Department of Public Health / Division of Epidemiology and Immunization / 617-983-6800
MDPH Meningococcal Information and Waiver Form, September, 2008*
