

# Immunizations & Meningitis Statement



| Student First Name | Student Last Name | Sport (if applicable) |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
|                    |                   |                       |

**Immunizations:**

**Tetanus/Diphtheria** – recommend having received a primary series of DTP, DT of Td and a booster within past 10 years.

**Measles, Rubella, Mumps** - proof of vaccination or a titer is acceptable; primary injection with a booster.

**Polio** - primary series in childhood.

**Varicella** - either a history of chicken pox, Varicella antibody or two (2) doses of vaccine given at least one month apart if immunized after age 13; or one (1) dose of vaccine if immunized before age 12.

**Hepatitis B** - series of three (3) injections given at specific time intervals.

**Meningococcal ACWY** - All students that are residing in college or university-owned housing are required to have at least one (1) dose of the Meningococcal ACWY vaccine or a signed waiver declining the vaccine after being given literature on the vaccine and the disease. Meningococcal ACWY immunization must be administered **within 5 years of campus entry**.

**Influenza** - annual immunization to avoid disruption to academic activities. These are given late fall providing they are not contradicted due to medical history or allergies.

**Meningococcal B** – recommended for students that are residing in college or university-owned housing. Consult with your physician for further information.

**COVID-19** – completion of initial vaccination series along with booster is recommended. Copy of COVID-19 vaccination card to be submitted along with completed medical records to Health Services. COVID-19 vaccine series is required for graduate students entering the Physician Assistant and Speech Language Pathology programs and some undergraduate health related programs that require practical work at off campus sites.

**Update Immunizations Record below and/or provide attachment:**

|                          | DATES | BOOSTERS |
|--------------------------|-------|----------|
| Diphtheria               |       |          |
| Pertussis                |       |          |
| Tetanus (within 10 yrs.) |       |          |
| Polio                    |       |          |
| Measles                  |       |          |
| Rubella                  |       |          |
| Mumps                    |       |          |
| Varicella                |       |          |
| Influenza                |       |          |
| Hepatitis B              |       |          |
| Meningococcal B          |       |          |
| Meningococcal ACWY       |       |          |
| COVID-19                 |       |          |
|                          |       |          |

**Tuberculosis Screening, if student is at risk (if positive, please list follow-up given)**

Negative       Positive      Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Immunizations & Meningitis Statement



## Meningitis Statement

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that first-year college students living in residence halls should receive at least 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) before college entry. **All students who will be living in campus housing must submit proof of meningococcal vaccination that covers serogroups A, C, W, and Y in the last 5 years or less.**

Pennsylvania passed the Pennsylvania College and University Student Vaccination Act, which was signed into law on June 28, 2002. This law prohibits a student from residing in a dormitory or housing unit unless the student has received the required Meningococcal A, C, W, Y vaccination. The student **may elect to waive receiving the vaccination** for religious or other reasons. In this instance, the student **must sign a declination statement** that states he or she understands the risks and benefits of the vaccination and that they choose not to be vaccinated for religious or other reasons.

Although not mandated by Pennsylvania law, the CDC does recommend the meningococcal serogroup B vaccine for those at increased risk including: 1.) those exposed to a meningitis B outbreak; 2.) those with a damaged or removed spleen including people with sickle cell disease; 3.) anyone with "persistent complement component deficiency"; 4.) anyone taking a drug called eculizumab (also called Soliris) and 5.) Microbiologists who routinely work with isolates of N. meningitis.

### **What is meningococcal meningitis?**

Meningitis is rare but potentially fatal bacterial infection. It can cause either inflammation affecting the brain and spinal cord or a systemic bacterial infection found in the blood. This can result in permanent brain damage, hearing loss, learning disability, limb amputation, kidney failure or death.

### **How is it spread?**

Meningococcal bacteria are transmitted through air droplets and direct contact with persons already infected with the disease. This can be through coughing, kissing, sneezing or sharing items like utensils, cigarettes and drinking glasses.

### **What are the symptoms?**

Symptoms of meningococcal meningitis often resemble those of the flu. These symptoms include high fever, rash, vomiting, severe headache, neck stiffness, lethargy, nausea and sensitivity to light.

### **Who is at risk?**

Anyone can get meningococcal disease but certain people are at increased risk, including adolescents and young adults 16 through 23 years old. Serogroups C, W, and Y cause the majority of meningococcal disease in the college age group. Research has shown that students residing in residence halls, particularly first-year students, are at higher risk for this type of meningococcal disease compared with college students overall.

### **Can meningitis be prevented?**

A safe and effective vaccine is available that is 85 percent to 100 percent effective in preventing four serogroups of the disease which cause approximately 70 percent of the meningococcal diseases found in the United States. The vaccine is effective for approximately 3 to 5 years. Reactions to the meningitis vaccine are mild and infrequent consisting primarily of redness and pain at the injection site. As with any vaccine, vaccination against meningitis may not protect 100% of all susceptible individuals. It does not protect against viral meningitis. To learn more about meningitis and the vaccine, visit the websites for the CDC ([www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo)) and the American College Health Association ([www.acha.org](http://www.acha.org)).

**This is a requirement to reside in Thiel College Housing. Please check the appropriate statement and sign below.**

- I have had the meningococcal A, C, W, and Y vaccination on \_\_\_\_\_. (date of vaccine)
- I have read and understand the information about meningitis, and I decline the meningococcal A, C, W and Y vaccine at this time. If I decide later that I want the vaccine, I will obtain it from my private healthcare provider.

Sign Here: Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**\*This will become part of the student's permanent file. The student will not be permitted to reside in campus housing if this form is not completed and returned prior to arrival on campus.**