

ANNUAL/ ONGOING IMMUNIZATION AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS

I. Frequently Asked Questions

What is appropriate documentation?

Students must provide official documentation of vaccination administration by a healthcare provider to fulfill the immunization requirements. Documentation of a vaccine includes the name of the vaccine, date, time, location, name of the person who received the vaccine, and signature of the person administering. The Utah Statewide Immunization Information System ([USIIS](#)) may be helpful to find documentation. Information from an employee health or student health record are also acceptable documentation. Receipts from a pharmacy are not acceptable as documentation.

How do I document immunizations?

All documentation must be uploaded to CORE ELMS and kept current. The student is responsible for ensuring their vaccinations and immunization information are up to date throughout the Doctor of Pharmacy program.

What is a titer?

A titer is a laboratory test that measures the presence and amount of antibodies in blood. A blood sample is taken and tested. If the test is positive (above a particular known value) the individual has immunity. If the test is negative (no immunity) or equivocal (not enough immunity), then the individual needs to be vaccinated.

What if I can't be vaccinated?

If there is a reason why a student believes they cannot meet these requirements and continue to keep vaccinations up to date throughout their time in the PharmD program, the student should contact the Student Affairs Team immediately. Failure to timely comply with these requirements will affect the College ability to place a student in clinical practice settings and will impact ability to graduate.

What if I allow my vaccine or testing to expire?

A student will be removed from any clinical practice rotations and will be required to make up any missed time. Student documentation must be submitted early enough prior to expiration to be confirmed by the Student Affairs and Experiential Education Teams before the student is allowed to attend clinical again.

II. What Vaccinations and Tests are Required?

Measles (Rubeola), Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)

- Two (2) MMR vaccinations OR
- Documentation of a positive titer to show immunity to Measles, Mumps, and Rubella

Varicella (Chicken Pox)

- Two (2) Varicella vaccinations OR
- Documentation of a positive titer to show immunity OR
- Documentation of past Varicella disease by a healthcare provider or local health department

Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis) Vaccination

- Tdap, immediately, if a student has not received Tdap previously
- Get either a Tdap or Td booster every 10 years thereafter
- Pregnant healthcare workers need to get Tdap with each pregnancy

COVID Vaccination

- Primary Series: Two (2) Vaccinations (Moderna or Pfizer) or one (1) vaccination (Johnson&Johnson/Janssen)
- Booster series: One (1) Vaccination at least five (5) months after primary dose (Moderna/Pfizer) or at least two (2) months after (J&J/Janssen) dose

Annual Influenza (Flu) Vaccination

- Must provide documentation every year by October 31st for administration of that flu season's vaccine
- A prescription label or receipt from the pharmacy where it was administered would not be accurate documentation by itself

Tuberculosis (TB) Test

- All incoming students must have an initial, baseline TB-test completed within the year before P1 classes begin. There are 3 options:
 - Two-step TST (two separate Tuberculin Skin Tests, a student would have one test placed, and read, and then another test placed 1-3 weeks later, and then read) OR
 - One QuantiFERON ® Gold blood test OR
 - One T-SPOT® TB blood test
- A blood test is the preferred method for annual TB testing.
- Students must have ONE annual TB test completed- Skin Test

- QuantiFERON Gold, or T-SPOT (see instructions below if a test is positive)
- Upload as "Annual TB Test"
- If a student's annual TB test is not completed before expiration, the student will need to repeat baseline testing (two skin tests or one blood test)
- If test has a positive result, the student must have a chest x-ray. Results of the x-ray must be uploaded in CORE ELMS
 - If the chest x-ray is normal, the student does not need annual TB tests for the program unless they experience symptoms, have an exposure, or as required by a rotation site.
 - If the chest x-ray is abnormal, the student needs to be cleared by their physician or local health department. Students cannot be placed in a clinical training site without medical clearance.

Hepatitis B

- Students must provide documentation of a minimum of three (3) Hepatitis B vaccinations **AND** a positive titer
 - The three (3) vaccination series is administered at 0, 1, and 6 months.
- Titers can be drawn 30 days after the last vaccination
 - If a student titer is positive, the vaccination series is complete and the student does not need additional Hepatitis B vaccinations. Upload the positive titer results to CORE ELMS
 - If a student titer is negative: start a second series of vaccinations, and repeat a titer after each vaccine or at the end of the series of vaccines
 - If a student titer result is still negative, indicating the student is not immune to Hepatitis B, please contact Student Affairs for further instructions
- Students have the option of receiving a two (2)-dose Heplisav-B series which can be completed within 4 weeks. A student can find providers here: <https://www.heplisavb.com/pharmacy-finder#>

III. Additional Information

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Recommended Vaccines for Health Care Workers can be found at:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/rec-vac/hcw.html>

Students will not be allowed to participate clinical co-curricular education or attend experiential rotations if they have not completed a full series of vaccinations or

cannot produce a positive titer. Please note, this process can sometimes take fourteen (14) months. Failure to comply with this requirement, may delay a student's entry into the experiential education program, which will delay the student's graduation. It is the student's responsibility to follow through to complete this by the deadline. All titers, whether positive or negative, and all vaccinations must be uploaded into CORE ELMS as they are received to allow tracking of progress in completing this requirement.

Further information from the University regarding immunization requirements can be found at:

- <https://studenthealth.utah.edu/services/immunizations/>

The College of Pharmacy recognizes that there can be substantial emotions regarding personal preferences for vaccination. The College of Pharmacy and University of Utah Health strongly encourage ALL students to be fully vaccinated. This is important for ensuring a safe learning environment to all involved – students, faculty, staff, and visitors. In addition, maintaining up to date vaccinations ensures the health and safety of students and patients during the clinical, experiential education portion of the PharmD program.

Students who seek a vaccination exemption will not be judged, nor discriminated against by the College of Pharmacy. However, it is the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to comply with all University requirements to obtain an exemption from vaccination.

In addition, students who seek a vaccination exemption should expect there will be limitations in co-curricular activities, and experiential education sites available to them. The decision to accept a student for experiential learning is at the discretion of the clinical training site, and is beyond the control of the College of Pharmacy.