

University of Portland

School of Nursing Immunization Guidelines

All immunizations are to be kept current in the electronic system, Complio, until the completion of the nursing program. In addition to providing the month, day, and year each vaccination was received, documentation/proof from a health care provider that includes the student name, date of birth, and dates of the vaccine or titer must be uploaded to Complio.

Students and faculty must be vaccinated as required by our clinical partners. MMR, Hepatitis B, Tdap, and Varicella vaccinations will be deemed exempt if the student is allergic to the vaccination. Documentation of this allergy from a health care provider is required. Tuberculosis test is not exempt.

Any questions regarding this information may be directed to the School of Nursing clinical services staff.

Required vaccines and specific guidelines:

Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)

- Must have two doses of the measles vaccination and one dose of the rubella vaccination – OR- two doses of the MMR vaccination. There should be a minimum of 28 days between doses.
- If you have received one measles vaccine and one MMR vaccine, you must have either the second measles and one rubella vaccine, or the MMR vaccine.
- If unable to provide MMR vaccine documentation, student may obtain an MMR titer (blood test) verifying positive immunity and submit the results.

Hepatitis B

- Students must submit documentation of 3-dose Hep B vaccine series **AND** documentation of Hep B titer (blood test) verifying positive immunity (See Appendix J for protocol and timing).
- If a series is complete and titer is negative (not immune), complete steps as outlined (See Appendix J) and submit documents as each step is completed:
 - Obtain 1-dose of Hep B vaccine
 - 4-6 weeks later, obtain Hep B titer (Hep B surface antibody blood test)
 - If positive, submit documentation: **DONE**
 - If negative, continue with 2nd & 3rd doses, obtain titer 4-6 weeks after 3rd dose, submit results (consult with health care provider if still negative)

Tuberculosis (TB)

Students entering off-campus clinical for the first time have two options available to meet the TB test requirement: Two TB skin tests **OR** One QuantiFERON-TB Gold (Q-Gold) blood test.

- **TB Skin Tests:** The first TB skin test must have been completed between September 1st and January 20th. The second TB skin test must be completed between December 10th and January 27th. There must be a minimum of one week between the first and second test.
- **QuantiFERON-TB Gold (Q-Gold) blood test:** One Q-Gold blood test is required. This must be completed between December 10th and January 27th.

This requirement must be renewed annually through one TB skin test or Q-Gold blood test while in 300 and 400 level BSN courses and the graduate program. Students will be notified when the renewal is due through automated reminders in online compliance tracking systems.

Positive TB Test Result Guidelines:

- If you have a history of positive TB result, you must initially submit the TB test result, a negative chest x-ray (must be within the last 5 years), and a consult note from a provider indicating current absence of symptoms.
- Annual review of symptoms and documentation from a provider indicating absence of symptoms is required.
- Chest x-rays will need to be updated if 5 years have passed since the last clear x-ray.
- Anyone with active TB should seek treatment through a provider and may not attend clinical experiences until they have a clear chest x-ray and normal review of symptoms.

Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (Tdap, DTaP)

- Must have received a Tdap (Tetanus/Diphtheria/acellular Pertussis) vaccination within the last 10 years.
- If a student's Tdap vaccine expires while in the nursing program, he/she/they must renew Tdap immunization. Documentation must be submitted prior to expiration. Td-only boosters are not accepted.

Varicella (Chickenpox)

- Students may submit proof of Varicella immunization by providing documentation of two doses of the Varicella vaccine. There should be a minimum of 28 days between doses.
- If a student has a history of prior infection, documentation of a titer (blood test) verifying immunity to the disease can be provided.

Influenza (Flu Shot)

- All nursing students in a clinical experience should obtain an annual influenza vaccination.
- Influenza vaccinations are available beginning in October of each year and documentation should be uploaded to Complio by requirement deadlines.
- Nursing students who decline to be vaccinated for nonmedical reasons, are putting themselves, and more importantly the patients they care for, at risk. Many people die each year from the flu, and vaccinations are a powerful way to demonstrate the professional ethic of altruism. Health care workers who choose not to be vaccinated, but to instead rely on others to provide herd immunity, may not be demonstrating the highest level of professional practice.
- Any nursing student who declines to be vaccinated against influenza for non-medical reasons is required to meet with the BSN program director, to explain rationale for not being vaccinated, along with any supporting scientific evidence. It is the student's responsibility to schedule this meeting and to obtain the declination form from the program compliance specialist before meeting with the BSN program director. The student must upload the signed declination form in place of vaccination documentation by requirement deadlines.
- It is not the School of Nursing's responsibility to ensure that a clinical site is able to accept students not vaccinated for non-medical reasons. Students may not receive make-up clinical time for flu-related absences.