

Division of Nursing and Allied Health Immunization Policies

MMR Immunization Policy

Arkansas law requires all full-time students born on or after January 1, 1957 to provide proof of immunization against measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) or immunity, or medical or non-medical exemption, or birth before 1957.

- Proof of Immunization: The immunization must be given in two doses. The first dose of the MMR must be given before the first birthday and after 1/1/1968. The second dose must be given at least 28 days after the first. Refer to Table III of the Arkansas State Board of Health, Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Immunization Requirements, page 16. Accepted proof of immunizations shall be those on an immunization record provided by a licensed physician, health department, military service or an official record from another educational institution in Arkansas. All accepted immunization records shall state the vaccine type and dates of vaccine administration.
- Proof of Immunity: In lieu of receiving vaccine students may provide proof of immunity. Students must submit serological test results (titers) appropriate for all three diseases (measles, mumps, and rubella) to the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) along with a letter requesting approval of immunity. Please send letter and test results to:

*Arkansas Department of Health
ATTENTION: Immunization Section
4815 West Markham Street
Little Rock, AR 72205*

After the Medical Director of the Immunization Section of the ADH has reviewed the letter and results, the student will receive either an approval or denial letter. If approved, it is the student's responsibility to provide ANC Registrar a copy of the letter for placement in the student's permanent file. Thereafter, annual approval is not required. If denied, the student must receive the required immunization or request an exemption (see below) through the Arkansas Department of Health.

- Medical or Non-medical Exemption: Students may apply for an authorized exemption (medical, religious, or philosophical) from the Arkansas Department of Health. Exemptions must be applied for each academic year. Forms can be obtained after July 1, each year by e-mail only at: <http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/infectiousDisease/Immunizations/Documents/2017-2018%20College%20Immunization%20Exemption%20Application%20Packet.pdf>

Resource:

Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Immunization Requirements are located at:

<http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/aboutADH/RulesRegs/ImmunizationRequirements.pdf>

Other Immunizations/Tests Required:

- **Tetanus:** Students admitted to the Nursing and Allied Health Programs must have a tetanus or tetanus booster if it has been greater than 10 years since their last booster.
- **TB test:** As a condition of admission and continuing enrollment all students are required to provide at the beginning of each academic year documentation of a negative tuberculin (TB) skin test or in the event of a positive TB skin test, a negative chest x-ray within the past three years; OR provide evidence of no TB disease per negative result of interferon-gamma release assays (IGRAs) blood tests (T-SPOT or QuantiFERON).
- **Series of 3 Hepatitis B injections, or waiver:** Students entering Nursing and Allied Programs must realize the potential for exposure to the Hepatitis B virus. Faculty recommends appropriate documentation of a completed series of Hepatitis B immunizations or consent to and be in the process of receiving the series of the 3 injections prior to any contact with patients/clients. If a student refuses or has reason to believe that the vaccine is contraindicated for him/her, the student must sign a declination form acknowledging the risk of Hepatitis B infection in a healthcare setting.
- **Seasonal flu vaccine annually:** Students are required to have an annual seasonal influenza vaccine.
- **Varicella vaccine:** Recommended for anyone who has not had chicken pox.