

Immunization/Vaccination Policy *(Effective June 7, 2022)*

The Center for Student Wellness is committed to taking steps to protect the physical, mental and emotional health of our entire campus community. One element of that commitment is ensuring compliance with New York Public Health Law requiring student proof of immunizations, and the University's requirements regarding COVID-19 vaccination.

New York State Public Health Requirements

Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)

New York Public Health Law (PHL) Section 2165 requires students attending post-secondary institutions who were born on or after January 1, 1957 and registered for 6 or more credit hours to demonstrate proof of immunity against measles, mumps, and rubella. Those born before 1957 do not need to submit proof of immunization.

A certificate of immunization (required to provide proof of immunity) includes documents such as a certificate from a health care provider, immunization registry record, cumulative health record from a previous school, migrant health record, immunization transfer record, military immunization record, immunization portion of a passport or an immunization record card signed by a health care provider. An immunization record may also show health care provider diagnosis of disease or laboratory evidence of immunity. Immunization records must be signed or stamped by a health care provider.

MEASLES (Proof of immunity for measles must be demonstrated by meeting **one** of the following three requirements.)

- (a) Two doses of live measles vaccine. The first dose must have been received no more than 4 days prior to the first birthday and the second dose received at least 28 days after the first dose, OR
- (b) Physician diagnosis of disease, OR
- (c) Serologic evidence of immunity.

MUMPS (Proof of immunity for mumps must be demonstrated by meeting one of the following three requirements.)

- (a) One dose of live mumps vaccine received no more than 4 days prior to the first birthday, OR
- (b) Physician diagnosis of disease, OR
- (c) Serologic evidence of immunity.

RUBELLA (Proof of immunity for rubella must be demonstrated by meeting one of the following two requirements.)

- (a) One dose of live rubella vaccine received no more than 4 days prior to the first birthday, OR
- (b) Serologic evidence of immunity,
- (c) Please note: Clinical diagnosis of rubella disease is **not** acceptable as proof of immunity.

Meningococcal Disease

New York State Public Health Law (PHL) Section 2167 requires post-secondary institutions to distribute information about meningococcal disease and immunization to the students, or parents or guardians of students under the age of 18, accompanied by a response form. St. Bonaventure University is required to maintain appropriate documentation for each student. Acceptable documentation includes any of the following:

- A vaccine record indicating at least 1 dose of meningococcal ACWY vaccine within the last 5 years or a complete 2- or 3-dose series of MenB without a response form; or
- A signed response form with a vaccine record (If a student submits a response form selecting this option, a vaccine record must be attached); or
- A signed response form indicating that the student will obtain meningococcal vaccine within 30 days; or
- A signed response form indicating that the student will not obtain immunization against meningococcal disease.

If the student has not received meningococcal vaccine within the past 5 years, then they must submit the signed response form.

Students who met the requirements for PHL 2167 in a semester/trimester prior to Spring 2017 do not need to resubmit their vaccine record or their response form.

COVID-19

St. Bonaventure University requires all students — except for fully online, non-residential graduate students — to receive an initial COVID-19 vaccine(s) if eligible, **OR** submit a signed COVID-19 Vaccination Response Form indicating that the student will not obtain the COVID-19 vaccine.

St. Bonaventure University also strongly encourages students to receive booster or additional COVID-19 vaccinations if appropriate.

Acceptable COVID-19 vaccines includes those approved by the FDA or authorized by the FDA for emergency use. For international students, the University will accept vaccines on the World Health Organization emergency use list that have reached a “finalized” status of assessment.

St. Bonaventure University reserves the right to change the COVID-19 vaccination policy at any time in accordance with guidance or recommendation from the federal, state, or local Department of Health.

Eligible Exemptions

Students may request an accommodation exempting them from some or all immunization/vaccination requirements under this policy by submitting a Religious or Medical Exemption Request for Immunization/Vaccination Requirement Form. Religious or Medical Exemption Requests must be submitted by July 15 for the fall semester and by December 1 for the spring semester. The University will evaluate requests in accordance with guidance from public health authorities, University policy and applicable law. If an exemption is granted, it may include lawful limitations or conditions on the exempted individual’s participation in particular activities or programs on campus in circumstances where the failure to be immunized/vaccinated would reasonably be expected to (a) prevent the individual from fulfilling the essential functions and/or curricular requirements of his/her/their academic

program, (b) cause the University undue hardship, or (c) pose a direct threat to the health and safety of others.

Medical and Religious Exemptions are valid for one year and must be submitted annually for review in advance of the upcoming academic year. General philosophical, moral, political, scientific, or sociological objections to immunizations or vaccinations will not justify an exemption from a requirement. Students requesting an exemption will be notified in writing of the outcome of their request within 10 business days of the University receiving a completed request form. At any time, the University reserves the right to require further documentation.

Documentation of Requirements

Students must submit all required immunization, vaccination and health forms, including COVID-19 Vaccination Response Forms (if utilized), to the St. Bonaventure University Center for Student Wellness. Lack of any required document(s) will result in a hold placed on a student's account.

If NYS mandated immunization records or St. Bonaventure University mandated health forms and requirements are not received within 30 days after the start of classes, non-compliant students will be removed from class and residential facilities.