



## Immunization Compliance Policy

In compliance with recommendations from the American College Health Association and in an effort to protect the health and well-being of students, Ottawa University requires the following:

- All newly enrolled (or readmitted) students born on or after 1957 must show proof of two vaccinations for Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR).
- All newly enrolled students living in university housing must show proof of the meningitis vaccine (16 years of age and older) or a meningitis vaccine (prior to age 16) and a vaccine booster.
- International students and/or any student identified as high risk must have a tuberculosis (TB) skin test within three months prior to the start of courses or proof with a negative chest X-ray. Results from outside the United States cannot be accepted. Please be aware the student may be asked to complete subsequent screening and/or treatment and failure to do so will be considered a violation of this policy.

Reference <http://cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/index.html> to review the information regarding recommendations, including schedules, indications, precautions and contradictions for immunizations provided by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) as published by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Students must have their health history form and immunization records completed and on file prior to moving in to campus housing. **If documentation is not received by August 31 (fall semester) or January 31 (spring semester), the student is subject to having their Braves Card turned off until the form is submitted.**

### Exemptions

#### *Medical*

If you have a medical condition, including pregnancy, which prohibits you from completing any of the requirements, you may submit an EXEMPTION request. If such condition is temporary, follow-up arrangements will be made. Medical exemptions must include a

statement completed by your licensed medical provider (MD, DO, APRN, PA, RN).

### *Religious Beliefs*

If you object to the immunization requirements based on religious beliefs, you may submit an exemption request. The Exemption Request Form will ask that you provide a letter from Clergy or a statement of your beliefs and how those beliefs impact your decision to be immunized.

All exemption requests must be submitted to Amy Kessinger, located in the Student Life Office. Any student requesting an exemption based on religious beliefs to required vaccines will be encouraged to receive counsel from a health service clinician. Non-immunized students may be excluded from campus during outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases.

Exemptions are subject to review each semester by authorized Ottawa University staff. To retrieve and complete a copy of the exemption form, please make your request to the Amy Kessinger, Student Life Operations and Conduct Coordinator (785-248-2347 or amy.kessinger@ottawa.edu).

Submit all health forms, immunization records and exemption forms to the Office of Student Life, located in the Administration Building-Room 201. Questions and/or concerns about the immunization policy can be directed to Amy Kessinger at 785-248-2347 or amy.kessinger@ottawa.edu.

### **REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS:**

#### **Required Dosage & Screening Information**

##### ***Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)***

(For ALL students)

Two (2) doses after 1st birthday (if born on or after 1957)

##### ***Meningococcal Meningitis***

(For students living in University Housing)

One (1) dose on or after age 16 for students who are ages 21 or younger OR a booster vaccination 16 years of age or after if an initial vaccination was administered

### **RECOMMENDED:**

The University strongly encourages all students to receive a flu shot and Covid-19 vaccination at timely intervals.