

## Immunization Policy

**Owner Department:** Office of Student Affairs

**Owner:** Associate Dean of Student Affairs

**Affected Department(s) or Parties:** Accepted Applicants, Matriculants, and Students enrolled in Carle Illinois College of Medicine

**Effective Date:** 01-18-2018

**Revision Date:** 02-23-2023

**Next Review Date:** 02-23-2026

**Policy Number:** SWH-5

- I. **Policy Purpose:** Carle Illinois College of Medicine requires proof of immunity to certain vaccine-preventable diseases, to protect patients, students, faculty, staff, and the public. This is done in accordance with Illinois state law, University of Illinois regulations, and requirements from clinical partners. Additional items may be required by affiliated clinical facilities such as, a 10-panel drug screen, Basic Life Support (BLS) certification, and a mask fit test.

II. **Definitions:**

- A. Accepted Applicant or Acceptee: A person who has applied to Carle Illinois College of Medicine and has been offered conditional admission.
- B. Matriculant: Any accepted applicant who has attended Carle Illinois College of Medicine orientation, for their most recent matriculation year, immediately preceding enrollment in the first credit-bearing course of the curriculum.
- C. Student: A person currently enrolled and attending Carle Illinois College of Medicine courses and for whom the University of Illinois maintains an academic record.
- D. Booster: A dose of an immunizing substance given to maintain or renew the effect of a previous immunization.
- E. Titer: A laboratory test that measures the presence and number of antibodies in the blood.

**III. Immunization Requirements:** The following immunizations are required to matriculate and to progress through the Carle Illinois curriculum. Some immunizations must be completed annually to remain in compliance as noted below. Documentation of dates of disease is not acceptable evidence of immunity. Additional or updated vaccination requirements may be added at any time and students will be given a minimum of 30 days to allow for vaccination administration so they may meet the updated requirements.

A. COVID-19:

1. You must be up to date with current CDC guidelines.

B. Hepatitis B:

1. Documentation of a series of 2 or 3 doses depending on the brand of the vaccine.
  - a. A titer must be drawn 1-2 months after the last dosage. If a titer is negative, repeat the shot series. A student is required to seek additional titer to confirm/disconfirm immunity.
  - b. If a student has completed 2 full vaccination series without producing adequate protective antibodies, they are considered a non-responder. Non-responders to Hepatitis B will follow applicable guidelines from the CDC.

C. Influenza:

1. Documentation of a flu vaccine administered annually during flu season.

D. Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR):

1. Documentation of 2 vaccination doses at least 28 days apart, after 12 months of age, and both doses given after 12/31/1967.
2. A positive serum titer within the past 10 years is also acceptable proof of immunity against measles, mumps, and rubella.

E. Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine:

1. Students between the ages of 16-21 must have one dose of Menactra, Menveo, Nimenrix or Aramen on or after their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday. Meningococcal-B vaccine does not meet this requirement.
2. Students aged 22 and over are not required to receive the vaccine.

F. Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis (DPT, DTP, DT, DTaP, Td, Tdap):

1. At least 3 doses diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis containing vaccine are required. One dose must be Tdap. The last dose of vaccine (DPT, DTP, DT, DTaP, Td, Tdap) or booster must have been administered within 10 years of the student's matriculation date. Td or Tdap boosters are required every 10 years from the date of the last administered booster dose.

**G. Tuberculosis (TB) Testing:**

1. Initial proof of no active TB infection via one of the following methods:
  - a. Negative 2-step TB skin test (1-3 weeks apart)
  - b. Negative QuantiFERON-TB Gold blood test
  - c. A clear chest x-ray if either of above is positive. Follow up with symptom review from thereafter on a yearly basis.
2. Annual proof of no active TB infection via one of the following methods:
  - a. Negative 1-step TB skin test
  - b. Negative QuantiFERON-TB Gold blood test
  - c. Annual submission of the symptom review form if initial 2-step TB skin test or QuantiFERON-TB Gold blood test results were positive

**H. Varicella (Chickenpox):**

1. Documentation of 2 vaccinations, at least 28 days apart, OR
2. A lab report showing positive titers.
  - a. If a titer is negative, follow up with two boosters four (4) to eight (8) weeks apart. Students are not required to seek additional titer to confirm/disconfirm immunity after receiving the two boosters.

**IV. Procedures:** Accepted applicants and students are responsible for uploading required documentation by designated deadlines into the system specified by Carle Illinois College of Medicine. Students are typically emailed reminders sixty (60), thirty (30), and fifteen (15) days prior to item expiration dates. Documents are monitored and approved by a vendor and a designated Carle Illinois Student Affairs staff member. Costs associated with immunizations or lab tests are the responsibility of the accepted applicant or student.

**V. Exemptions**

- A. Leave of Absence: Students who are on leave are exempt from immunization requirements but are required to be in full compliance before they will be permitted to return to Carle Illinois College of Medicine.
- B. Medical Exemption: A written, signed, and dated statement from a physician stating the specific contraindicated vaccine(s), the reason why and duration of the medical exemption is required. Documents are reviewed and approved by the Medical Director at McKinley.
- C. Pregnancy or Suspected Pregnancy: A signed and dated statement from a physician indicating that you are pregnant (include expected date of delivery) is required. After delivery, you must then comply with immunization requirements as directed by your physician.

- D. Religious Exemption: Submit the [Petition for Exemption](#) to the Dean of Students at [helpdean@illinois.edu](mailto:helpdean@illinois.edu).

**VI. Immunization Non-Compliance**

- A. Accepted applicant immunization records are due at least seven (7) days prior to matriculation. If an accepted applicant does not fulfill the immunization requirements by that deadline, their offer of acceptance to the Carle Illinois College of Medicine may be rescinded.
- B. If a student does not fulfill the annual immunization requirements and other items required by affiliated clinical facilities by stated deadlines, they may be prohibited from beginning or continuing their education and clinical experiences.

**Governing Body:** Executive Leadership Team

**History:**

Revised: C. Van Orman & S. Bartlett, January 23, 2023

**Approved By/Date:**

Executive Leadership Team, January 12, 2022, Executive Leadership Team April 18, 2023.