

# Recommendations for Immunization and Screening Requirements for California Colleges & Universities with Student Housing



## Recommendations of the California Department of Public Health

Recommended Immunization	Doses	Which students should be immunized or immune? <sup>§</sup>	Existing Requirements by State Law or Executive Order
<b>Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)</b>	2 doses, 1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday*	All	CSU System requires proof of full immunization to measles and rubella (CSU Executive Order 803-2002).
<b>Varicella (chickenpox)</b>	2 doses, 1 <sup>st</sup> dose on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday*	All	N/A
<b>Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap)</b>	1 dose in last 10 years <sup>#</sup>	All	N/A
<b>Meningococcal Conjugate†</b>	1 dose on or after 16 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Students new to dormitory settings (Universities may choose to require all students to receive this vaccine.)	Institutions that provide on-campus housing must inform students about meningococcal disease and vaccine and must document receipt of information and whether they choose to be immunized. (Health and Safety Code, Sections 120395-120399).^
<b>Hepatitis B</b>	3 doses (or completed licensed series)	All	First-time enrollees at UC and CSU ≤18 years of age (Health and Safety Code, 120390.5).^

\* Minimum interval of 4 weeks between doses is valid.

# The first Tdap vaccines were licensed in the U.S. in 2005. Tdap provides additional protection over Td by protecting against pertussis (whooping cough), a common respiratory illness.

† Preferred to meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine

^ Applicable to UC only by UC Resolution.

### Other Immunization Recommendations:

Additional immunizations are recommended for preventative care:

- influenza vaccine (annual)
- hepatitis A vaccine
- human papillomavirus vaccine (for women through age 26 years; males through age 26 years may also receive the quadrivalent HPV vaccine.)
- poliovirus (if did not complete series as a child)
- vaccines for international travel, based on destination.

Students in health professions may have additional immunization requirements. Students with certain medical conditions (e.g., diabetes mellitus) may need additional immunizations.

### Tuberculosis (TB) Risk Assessment:

All incoming students should be assessed for their risk of developing TB. A model TB risk assessment questionnaire suitable for inclusion in student acceptance packets is available at [http://www.acha.org/Publications/docs/Tuberculosis%20Screening%20and%20Targeted%20Testing\\_Jul2008.pdf](http://www.acha.org/Publications/docs/Tuberculosis%20Screening%20and%20Targeted%20Testing_Jul2008.pdf). Students with identified risk factors for TB, such as living in a country where TB is common, should have a tuberculin skin test (TST) or Interferon-gamma release blood test (IGRA). Recommendations for evaluation and treatment of students with a positive screening test can also be found on the ACHA website.

### Documentation:

Proof of immunization should be submitted to the school prior to attendance. Documentation must include the month and year that each vaccine was given. The day must be documented for MMR and varicella vaccines given near the first birthday, with a minimum interval of 4 weeks between doses.

Review of the TB screening questionnaire and action indicated (e.g. obtain TB test - yes or no) should be documented and

submitted to the school prior to attendance. If a TB test has been performed, documentation should include the type and date of test and the skin test reading (in mm) or IGRA results.

The completed immunization record, tuberculosis risk questionnaire, results of any TB test, and evaluation for active TB should be maintained in each student's health or academic file in paper or electronic form. Using an immunization registry to access or store records is highly recommended. Find out how to join California's registry system at [www.cairweb.org](http://www.cairweb.org).

### Immunization Exemptions:

<sup>§</sup>Students who are not in health professions may be granted exemption from immunization requirements if they can provide a signed statement from a physician documenting either:

- a) the student's vaccine contraindications or
- b) other evidence of immunity (the statement must be signed by a physician or nurse);
  - **MMR:** born in the U.S. before 1957 or positive IgG serology for measles, mumps and rubella.
  - **Varicella:** born in U.S. before 1980, physician certification of history of chickenpox disease or shingles, or positive varicella IgG (prior disease)

Colleges may choose to register students who have not received one or more immunizations if they present a personal belief exemption statement that is signed by the student if ≥18 years of age, or by a parent or guardian if the student is <18 years of age. CSU and UC campuses must permit such exemptions for hepatitis B vaccine (California Health and Safety Code 120390.5).

Students in health professions have fewer exemptions.

### Resources:

This Table is based on the U.S. Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm) and American College Health Association (ACHA) Guidelines for immunizations (1/09) [http://www.acha.org/Publications/Guidelines\\_WhitePapers.cfm](http://www.acha.org/Publications/Guidelines_WhitePapers.cfm).

Additional information regarding these recommendations can be found at [www.getimmunizedca.org](http://www.getimmunizedca.org) and [www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/tb/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/tb/Pages/default.aspx).