



**THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY**

WASHINGTON, DC

Responsible University Official:
Associate Dean for Student Affairs
Responsible Office: Office of Student
Affairs
Most Recent Revision: 7/2018

POLICY FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS HEALTH INSURANCE AND IMMUNIZATIONS

Policy Statement

I. Tracking

All students who are under twenty-six (26) years of age, regardless of where they receive their primary care, are required to maintain a permanent record of certain health maintenance requirements at the University Student Health Service. All students, regardless of age, must also maintain the School of Medicine and Health Sciences' (SMHS) health requirements at the George Washington University Hospital Employee Health Office (GWUH EHO). Records submitted to the staff at orientation will be sent directly to the GWUH EHO, which will maintain them in strictly confidential files for the remaining years of enrollment at the school. Students will have direct access to their records and will submit any required updates directly to GWUH EHO. GWUH EHO will provide documentation of a student's status to external facilities as required during the student's education and/or at the student's request. If a student is out of compliance with required health maintenance activities he/she may be at risk for delays in school registration or advancement to the next academic year (see specific requirements below).

II. Entrance Requirements

Students who are under twenty-six (26) years of age must submit the required university form with evidence that they have met the entrance requirements by the time of matriculation to SMHS. All students must submit the medical school form by the time of matriculation to the medical school. In addition to the immunizations required by the university, SMHS has the following entrance requirements.

a. Hepatitis B Immunization

Students must provide documentation of a full series of three immunizations against Hepatitis B, serologic evidence of immunity, or sign a consent waiver documenting that they have voluntarily declined to meet this requirement.

b. Tuberculosis Exposure Testing (PPD Skin Testing)

All students must complete Tuberculosis blood testing prior to matriculation. This testing must be completed between May 1st and August 1st of the matriculation year and submitted to the Office of Student Affairs.

c. **Varicella Zoster (Chicken Pox)**

At the time of enrollment, students must provide evidence of prior varicella infection, serologic evidence of infection, or documentation of varicella immunization.

III. Additional Requirements

a. **Influenza**

Students must provide evidence of annual influenza immunization by December 1 (unless a medical contraindication exists. Contraindications must be documented by a health care provider.).

b. **Tuberculosis Exposure Testing (PPD skin testing)**

All students must complete Tuberculosis blood testing annually between May 1st and August 1st. This documentation must be submitted annually to the Office of Student Affairs.

IV. Health Insurance

All students are required to maintain personal health insurance continuously while enrolled at GW SMHS.

V. Mental Health Services

Confidential psychiatric consultation can be provided at University Student Health Services. In addition, the university maintains a very extensive counseling center that is available to all students. The counseling center can provide confidential evaluation and treatment for a broad range of problems. Both GW Student Health Services and the counseling center can facilitate external referral for evaluation and treatment if necessary. Finally, the Office of the Dean maintains contact information for many community psychiatrists and psychologists who are willing to see medical students.

VI. Disability Insurance

The medical school does not require students to carry disability insurance. However, we strongly urge students to consider a disability policy, particularly if they already have a family or dependents. Disability insurance is made available from private vendors, the American Medical Association, or university vendors. Please see the Student Affairs deans if you have questions.

Who Needs to Know This Policy

Medical students, faculty, deans, staff, GW Student Health Services, and counseling center

Who Approved This Policy

Office of Student Affairs, SMHS

Executive Committee of the Faculty Assembly, 7/23/2015