

Susquehanna University

Student Health Center

Immunizations



Immunizations offer safe and effective protection from vaccine-preventable diseases. The United States is experiencing a re-emergence of many diseases, in part due to factors such as non-immunized and under-immunized persons and global travel. Susquehanna University Health Services supports the use of vaccines to protect the health of individual students and the campus community as a whole.

All full-time students are required to have a Susquehanna University Health Form completed in English on file with the Student Health Center. Click here to download Susquehanna University's Health Form. This form is evaluated and updated annually. <https://www.susqu.edu/campus-life/student-and-campus-services/student-health-center>.

The updates in this document are in accordance with changing public health recommendations via the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and are aligned with recommendations made by the American College Health Association (ACHA). Links to full information regarding these along with the Pennsylvania Code on Immunizations, can be found below:

<http://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/Display/pacode?file=/secure/pacode/data/028/chapter23/subchapCtoc.html&d=reduce>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>

https://www.acha.org/documents/resources/guidelines/ACHA_Immunization_Recommendations_Oct2018.pdf

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html>

Required Immunizations:

Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)

To satisfy vaccine requirements, students must provide proof of:

- Two doses of the MMR vaccine OR
- Results from a blood test showing immunity

The first dose must have been given on or after the student's first birthday. Dose two must have been given at least four weeks after dose one. <https://www.immunize.org/vis/mmr.pdf>

Meningococcal

Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4), is also known as Menveo or Menactra. This vaccine is effective against the most common meningococcal infections caused by serogroups A, C, W, and Y. First-year college students who are or will be living in a residential facility should get a booster dose if their previous dose was given before age of 16. https://www.immunize.org/vis/meningococcal_acwy.pdf

Varicella (Chicken Pox)

Two doses of Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine are needed for immunity. The doses must be administered at least 28 days apart. A blood test confirming immunity should be completed if you have had the chicken pox disease. <https://www.immunize.org/vis/varicella.pdf>

Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis (Tdap)

One dose of Tdap (tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid and acellular pertussis, NOT to be confused with DTap or Td) vaccine is needed for immunity. A Td vaccine booster is also needed if it has been greater than ten years since the Tdap was administered. <https://www.immunize.org/vis/tdap.pdf>

Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B is transmitted through body fluids, including blood. Three doses of Hepatitis B vaccine are needed for immunity. Doses one and two must be administered at least four weeks apart. Dose three should be at least six months after the first dose and eight weeks after dose two. A blood test may be used to confirm immunity. https://www.immunize.org/vis/hepatitis_b.pdf

Polio

Poliovirus vaccination is a 4-dose series at ages 2, 4, 6–18 months, 4–6 years. The final dose is to be administered at or after age 4 years and at least 6 months after the previous dose. 4 or more doses of IPV can be administered before age 4 years when a combination vaccine containing IPV is used. However, a dose is still recommended at or after age 4 years and at least 6 months after the previous dose. https://www.immunize.org/vis/polio_ipv.pdf

Tuberculin screening

Understandably this is not an Immunization. However, Tuberculosis symptom check and/or Tuberculin Skin test within 12 months of entry into Susquehanna University is required. All International students must have Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) with chest x-ray and treatment management of Positive TST or IGRA

Strongly Recommended Immunizations

Meningococcal Vaccine (MenB)

Also known as Bexsero or Trumenba. This vaccine is effective against most of the more common Meningococcal infections caused by Serogroup B. These vaccines are given in a series of either two or three injections and are NOT interchangeable. Please look at your insurance coverage of this vaccine as some do not cover. If your insurance does not cover this vaccine and you would like it, reach out to your local Department of Health for availability. https://www.immunize.org/vis/meningococcal_b.pdf

Hepatitis A Vaccine (HepA)

Hepatitis A vaccine is a 2-dose series given 6-18 months apart. In some cases, Hep A and Hep B are given as a combined vaccine, which would necessitate that 3 doses are needed for immunity.

https://www.immunize.org/vis/hepatitis_a.pdf

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)

Three different vaccines have been used in the U.S. [Cervarix (bivalent HPV vaccine), Gardasil (Quadrivalent HPV vaccine), Gardasil-9 (9-valent HPV vaccine)]; all three are given in a 3-dose series and are needed for immunity. <https://www.immunize.org/vis/hpv.pdf>

Influenza

CDC recommends everyone 6 months of age and older get vaccinated every flu season. Children 6 months through 8 years of age may need 2 doses during a single flu season. Everyone else needs only 1 dose each flu season. It takes about 2 weeks for protection to develop after vaccination.

https://www.immunize.org/vis/flu_inactive.pdf

- *Please be advised, Susquehanna University does not carry vaccines. Your primary care provider (PCP) should be able to provide these for you during a regularly scheduled office visit. If they are unable to provide certain vaccines, they will direct you to reach out to your local Medical Centers or Department of Health(s).*