

## Immunization Requirements



**Policy Number:**

**Owner Department:** Office of Admissions / Dean of Students / Human Resources

**Approved Date/Effective Date:** 2016 / March 2021

**Approved By:** President's Council

### **I. POLICY STATEMENT/PURPOSE**

To safeguard the health of onsite SCNM community members including students, staff, faculty and patients; to prevent communicable diseases that could interrupt the educational process; to prevent the transmission of disease to our patients; and to prepare students for participating in clinical experiences.

### **II. POLICY STATUS**

Updated from 2016

### **III. HISTORY/BACKGROUND**

SCNM has mandated proof of immunity or declination of vaccination to Hepatitis B and testing for Tuberculosis for student clinicians, clinical instructors and staff since 2003. The influenza vaccine has also been offered to students, faculty and staff. With the increased prevalence of measles infections in 2015, this vaccination policy was revised to include proof of measles immunity or appropriate exemption. In 2019, SCNM updated this policy to meet updated Tuberculosis screening guidelines. The policy was also updated to reflect different requirements for our onsite and online programs.

In 2020, a global pandemic of the COVID-19 virus killed hundreds of thousands of people in the United States and altered the education of SCNM students. In 2021 an immunization became available. This policy was updated to reflect SCNM's recommendation of this immunization.

### **IV. DEFINITION(S)**

Declination – to turn down or politely refuse to comply with policy item(s) for personal reasons.

Exemption – release from or exception made to policy item(s) for a specific reason, i.e., religious belief or medical need.

Onsite / On Campus – includes all SCNM facilities and extended sites.

### **V. SCOPE/KEY STAKEHOLDERS**

This policy applies to all onsite students and employees. Distance Learning students and remote employees are exempt from the immunization requirement. However, if an online student or remote employee begins taking courses or is working on SCNM's campus, they will become subject to the requirements outlined in this policy.

### **VI. POLICY ITEMS**

A. All onsite SCNM employees and students must provide sufficient documentation for measles (rubeola) immunity or documented exemption.

1. Provide record of two doses of measles-containing vaccine (i.e. MMR) or
2. Provide proof of measles (rubeola) immunity via titer or

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3. Provide laboratory confirmation that you had measles at some point in your life or
  4. Provide documentation that you were born before 1957 or
  5. Complete religious exemption or
  6. Complete medical exemption
- B. All clinical students, clinicians and medical center staff must complete the following within the procedures outlined by their department:
1. Hepatitis B
    - a. Complete Hep B Acknowledgement Form and check appropriate box.
    - b. Depending on response indicated on form:
      - i. Provide proof of immunity via titer or
      - ii. Complete 3-dose series of immunizations or
      - iii. If declining vaccine, then no further documentation is needed
    - c. Additional testing will be recommended as needed.
  2. Tuberculosis Screening
    - a. Initial screening for employment and student enrollment
      - i. Complete Two-Step Purified Protein Derivative Tuberculosis Test (PPD) or
      - ii. Complete TB Blood Test – either T-Spot or QuantiFERON
    - b. If reactive to PPD skin test:
      - i. Provide current chest x-ray with questionnaire or
      - ii. Complete TB Blood Test if false positive skin test is suspected
    - c. If history of BCG vaccine administration
      - i. Complete TB Blood Test
    - d. Additional testing will be recommended as needed.
  3. Tdap, Varicella, and influenza
    - a. SCNM encourages students to receive Tdap and Varicella immunization injections, as well as receive annual influenza immunizations, while on clinical rotations.
    - b. Some extended site community clinics require proof of immunity to or a record of these immunizations.
- C. SCNM encourages all on-site students and employees to complete the following:
1. COVID-19 Immunization complete series
    - a. Students and employees who provide documentation of complete immunization will not be subject to quarantine procedures per CDC guidance.
- D. Implementation:
1. As above
  2. Where deemed necessary by the Executive Council, (i.e., during an outbreak) on-campus employees and students without documented immunity may be withheld from attending campus and off-site activities, including work, class, and clinical education activities.

## **VII. RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Human Resources  
Dean of Students  
Admissions Department

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The Director of Human Resources, in conjunction with the Senior Practice Manager of the Medical Center and Dean of Students, will develop administrative regulations and procedures as necessary to implement policy, including provisions for notification, signage, disciplinary consequences, complaint procedures and enforcement.

### VIII. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Religious Exemption Form  
Medical Exemption Form  
Declination Form

### IX. NEXT REVIEW DATE

October 2022

### X. VERSION CONTROL AND CHANGE HISTORY

Version Control	Approved By/Date	Date Effective	Amendment
1	President's Council/2016	TBD	
2	President's Council/2019	October 23, 2019	TB screening updated
3	Presidents Council/2-24-2021	March 2021	COVID-19

### XI. POLICY AUTHOR/CONTACT

### XII. REFERENCES

#### **Tuberculosis (TB) in Healthcare Settings**

<https://www.cdc.gov/hai/organisms/tb.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Core Curriculum on Tuberculosis: What the Clinician Should Know. fourth Edition, 2000.

Measles (Rubeola) - <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/faqs.html>

- Review "Am I protected against measles?" and "Do I ever need a booster vaccine?"