

Immunization Policy

State law requires all and full-time and part-time non-degree earning students born after December 31, 1956 to provide proof of immunization or immunity to Tetanus/Diphtheria and MMR prior to starting classes.

Requirements are as follows:

- **A Tetanus/Diphtheria vaccine within the last ten years.**
 - One dose of tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap); diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTaP); diphtheria, tetanus (DT); or tetanus and, diphtheria (Td) toxoid within 10 years prior to student's start date.
- **Two doses of the Measles, Mumps, and Rubella vaccine after the student's first birthday.**
 - If immunization cannot be determined via previous records or titer test, re-immunization is required.
 - Vaccines may be given in several different combined preparations, and there must be two instances of vaccination for EACH of Measles, Mumps, and Rubella. These include: M/R Vax (measles and rubella); MMR vax (measles, mumps, and rubella) or Biovax (rubella and mumps).

Please note: In addition to the above vaccines, health career students will need additional vaccines and/or laboratory testing to participate in externships. These are as follows:

- Two doses of the Varicella vaccine (or titer showing immunity)
- Hepatitis B series (series of three doses given at appropriate intervals)
- Mantoux (PPD) test for Tuberculosis (two-step administered initially, with yearly follow-up while enrolled).

Evidence of Immunization or Immunity

- A. A student required to demonstrate adequate immunization or immunity against each disease specified in this rule must present the school with documented evidence of immunization or immunity to the disease.
1. **Certificate of Immunization:** Certificate of Immunization from a physician, nurse, public health official, or school health provider who has administered the immunizing agent(s) to the student must specify the immunizing agent, and the date(s) on which it was administered. Secondary school health records may also be accepted as proof of immunization under this rule, in lieu of certificates of immunization. These secondary school health records, having been compiled and maintained as an official document, based on certificates of immunization state, at a minimum, the month and year that the immunization was administered and/or which contain copies of laboratory evidence of immunity; or

2. **Proof of immunity to diseases:** Laboratory results or medical records demonstrating immunity will be considered acceptable evidence of meeting the purpose of this requirement.
- B. The fact that appropriate documentation was presented must be recorded in the student health record.
 - C. The presentation of acceptable proof of immunization/ immunity must be made prior to the student's attendance at class or participation in other activities conducted by the school, unless otherwise stated in law.

Exemptions

Medical Exemption

A student who does not meet the immunization and/or immunity requirements may be enrolled in school under a medical exemption, of which a **written statement is required**.

1. The student, or parent, if the student is a minor, presents to the school a written statement from a licensed physician (MD/DO/NP/PA) that, in their professional judgement, immunization against one or more diseases may be medically inadvisable.
 - a. **Tetanus-diphtheria toxoid exemptions are limited to:**
 - i. A hypersensitivity reaction to a prior dose of tetanus toxoid or tetanus-diphtheria toxoid.
 - b. **Measles, Mumps, and Rubella vaccine medical exemptions are limited to:**
 - i. Pregnancy, or those students planning to become pregnant within 3 months;
 - ii. A history of anaphylactic reaction following egg ingestion or receipt of neomycin;
 - iii. Students with compromised immune systems, as occurs with leukemia, lymphoma, generalized malignancy, or therapy with alkylating agents, antimetabolites, radiation, or large doses of corticosteroids.

Religious/Philosophical/Personal Exemptions

A student covered by an individualized educational plan on September 1, 2021 who elected a philosophical, religious, or personal exemption from immunization requirements on or before September 1, 2021 may continue to attend school under the student's existing exemption as long as:

- The parent or guardian provides a statement from a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant that they've consulted with the parent or guardian and have made that parent or guardian aware of the risks and benefits associated with the choice to immunize.

- If the student is 18 years of age or older, the student provides a statement from a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant that they've consulted with that student and have made that student aware of the risks and benefits associated with the choice to immunize.

Exclusions by Order of Public Health Official

A student not immunized or immune from a disease may be excluded from school when, in the opinion of a public health official, the student's continued presence in school poses a clear danger to the health of others. The chief administrative officer may be directed to exclude the student from school during the period of danger or for one incubation period following immunization, when one or more cases of disease are present. An excluded student who was infected with a disease shall be permitted to return to school after the Department, in consultation with the physician responsible for the individual's care, determines that return is permissible and will not pose a threat to public health. An exempted student may be permitted to return to school by providing proof of immunity through laboratory results. An exempted student who receives immunization following the identification of a disease must wait one incubation period following the date of immunization before returning to school.

The documented occurrence of a single case of any of these diseases may be interpreted as a clear danger to the health of others.

The following periods are defined as the "period of danger":

- Measles: 15 days (one incubation period) from the onset of symptoms of the last identified case.
- Rubella: 23 days (one incubation period) from the onset of symptoms of the last identified case.
- Mumps: 18 days (one incubation period) from the onset of symptoms of the last identified case.

Record Keeping

The chief administrative officer shall be responsible for the maintenance of immunization records. The chief administrative officer may designate a person to be responsible for record keeping as follows:

- Immunization records are maintained in the Registrar Office, 51 US Route 1, Suite K, Scarborough, ME.

Questions concerning immunization dates and records should be directed to the Registrar Office. The Office can be reached at (800) 447-1151 or by email at registrar@ntinow.edu.



51 U.S. Route 1, Suite K, Scarborough, ME 04074
1435 Broadway, Bangor, ME 04401
730 Center St, Suite 6C, Auburn, ME 04210
(800) 447-1151 | www.NTINOW.edu

Individual Health Records

Each school shall adopt a uniform permanent health record for maintaining information regarding the health status of each student.

- The immunization status of the student with regard to each disease shall be noted on the student's individual health record.
- The school will provide, upon request from a public health official, a list of each student's date of matriculation.
- The school health record for each student enrolled must include, at a minimum, the month and year that each immunizing agent was administered.
- Where laboratory evidence of immunity has been submitted, a copy of the documentation must be kept on file.
- The school health record for a student exempt by law from immunization requirements must include a copy of the written request for exemption, with a record indicating whether the request was granted, and the reason the exemption is authorized.

List of Non-immunized Students

The Registrar shall keep a listing of the names of all students within the school who are not currently immunized against each disease. This list shall include the names of all students with authorized exemptions from immunization and students who have not met the schedule of minimum requirements for immunizing agents or who are otherwise in compliance with the applicable laws related to immunization. A list of non-immunized students must be made available to the Department in times of disease outbreaks, pursuant to 22 MRS § 802(1)(B).

Required Reports

Chief Administrative Officer's Responsibility

The chief administrative officer is responsible for submitting a summary report on the immunization status of students by December 15 of each year for each school on the prescribed forms, to the Department.

Summary Report

NTI must submit an annual summary report that reflects meaningful data by broad groupings that distinguish previously enrolled students and new students. Each report must be signed by the school's CAO, certifying that the information is accurate and complete. The summary report must include the following information, at a minimum:



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- The names of the school and the CAO;
- The total student enrollment;
- The number of new students identified as either immunized (by vaccine type), immune, exempt or out of compliance; and
- The number of students who are previously enrolled and unimmunized.

Compliance

The Maine CDC will periodically select a small sample of student health records for the purpose of comparing student health record data and reports against the criteria delineated in this rule. The results of this sample survey will be shared with the CAO and other school administrators, as applicable, for the purpose of identifying problem areas and addressing findings of noncompliance. Individual students and individual schools will not be identified by name.

For more information: *Post-Secondary School Immunization Rule 10-144 Code of Maine Rules Chapter 262.*