

Immunization Policy

Individuals who choose to undertake training for a health science profession should be aware of the risks associated with health care training and professional practice. Healthcare students and professionals utilize standard precautions to reduce the risk of infectious disease exposure, however, these measures do not eliminate the risk that a student or healthcare provider may become infected. During healthcare training in the lab and clinic setting, students will come into close contact with their instructors, classmates, and patients. With this in mind, students should make informed choices regarding their education and career.

Please review all CDC and WHO links provided below to ensure you are well informed regarding the risks associated with healthcare and with the preventative measures used to mitigate these risks. If you have concerns about your personal risk level, you should contact your healthcare provider.

CDC: Workplace Safety and Health Topics: Health Care Workers

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/healthcare/default.html>

CDC: Infection Control: Standard Precautions for All Patient Care

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/basics/standard-precautions.html>

CDC: Sequence for Putting on PPE and Safe PPE Removal

<https://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/ppe/ppe-sequence.pdf>

Upon acceptance to State Fair Community College Health Science programs, students are required to provide proof of immunization against a variety of diseases. Proof includes evidence of vaccination on an official record, school records, or positive titer results. Students must submit proof of immunization using the Medical Document Manager through their CastleBranch account. Students not meeting immunization requirements nor receiving an approved exemption from the clinical site will be prohibited from participating in clinical education and therefore, will be dismissed from the program. Students should have received most of these immunizations during childhood, but some immunizations need to be more recent. These immunizations and tests may be obtained for a nominal fee at local county health departments. The SFCC immunization policy for Health Science students is determined by the requirements and standards of our clinical partners. The immunization policy applies equally to all students regardless of their specific clinical placement. Should clinical site requirements change, student will be required to meet the standard or will be prohibited from participating in clinical education.

The required immunizations may include:

- COVID-19 Vaccine [DH does not require]
 - o Many health science programs attend clinical sites that require documented COVID-19 vaccination or an approved exemption. If enrolling in a health science program utilizing clinical sites requiring vaccination or an approved exemption, the student would be required to comply or would be prohibited from participating in

- o Verification of immunization series completion and boosters as required by clinic sites
- ♣ Series of 2 doses of monovalent Moderna or Pfizer (as of 5/6/23 vaccine is no longer available) OR
- Doses at least 3 weeks apart
- ♣ Single dose of monovalent Johnson and Johnson (as of 5/6/23 vaccine is no longer available) OR
- ♣ Single dose of bivalent Moderna or Pfizer
- Measles, Mumps & Rubella (MMR) Vaccine
 - o Laboratory evidence of immunity
 - Laboratory confirmation of rubella, mumps or measles disease OR
 - o Birth before 1957 does not require immunization
 - o Evidence of NO measles immunity need two doses of MMR vaccine, with the second dose administered no earlier than 28 days after the first dose.
- Varicella (Chickenpox) Vaccine
 - o Laboratory evidence of immunity OR
 - o Document of vaccination with 2 doses of varicella vaccine
 - 2 vaccines at least 28 days apart
- Influenza (Seasonal Flu) Vaccine
 - o Verification of annual flu vaccine (fall)
- Hepatitis B
 - o Laboratory confirmation of Hepatitis B immunity OR
 - o Series of 3 doses of Engerix B or Recombivax HB over a 6-month period OR
 - Series needs to be started prior to beginning program of study and the remainder can be completed after program entry
 - o Series of 2 doses of Heplisav-B
 - 2 doses at least 4 weeks apart
- Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis Vaccine
 - o Documentation of having received a booster within the last 10 years
- Tuberculosis
 - o If no TB test completed in last 24 months, must have 2 step Tuberculin Skin Test
 - 2 tuberculin skin tests completed within 1-3 weeks of each other
 - Step 1 – Tuberculin Skin Test and result read within 2-3 days
 - Step 2 - Tuberculin Skin Test 1-3 weeks after step 1 and result read within 2-3 days.
 - o If a two-step TB test has been in last 12 months, one-step TB test is required within 3 months of beginning the program. Must provide documentation of a two-step.
 - o TB test (1 step) is required annually
 - o Positive TB skin test must have a documented negative chest x-ray from any time AND an annual negative TB questionnaire. Negative TB questionnaire required annually.

Students with approved immunization exemptions must abide by clinical facility mandates such as PPE or communicable disease testing on a regular basis (possibly at the student's expense). Students must maintain current immunization records for the duration of the health science program and throughout the course remediation period.