

Princeton University

# Required Immunizations

Registration holds and or fines are applied for students non-compliant with the immunization requirements

## COVID-19

At present, the University is accepting those vaccines authorized for emergency use by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as recommended by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), as well as those authorized by the World Health Organization EUL. The following COVID vaccines are being accepted:

- FDA-Authorized: Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson (Janssen)
- WHO EUL-Authorized: AstraZeneca/Oxford (SK-BIO and Covishield), Sinopharm (BBIBP-CorV), Sinovac (CoronaVac), Bharat Biotech (COVAXIN)

We anticipate that other vaccines available internationally may become authorized and will be updated here. International students who provide documentation of an FDA- or WHO-authorized vaccine will not need to be vaccinated again upon arrival. We will make determinations on questions regarding accepting other vaccines as more information is available. Updated guidance will be provided throughout the summer.

**Students who are abroad and are unable to obtain an FDA- or WHO-authorized vaccine** may receive an FDA-authorized vaccine when they arrive in the United States. If you are unsure whether you can receive an approved vaccine before returning to campus for the fall semester, please email [myuhs@princeton.edu](mailto:myuhs@princeton.edu) so that UHS can work with you to receive the vaccine once you arrive in Princeton.

For additional questions, please email [covidvaccines@princeton.edu](mailto:covidvaccines@princeton.edu).

## Hepatitis B

***(Immunizations that do not follow this schedule must include a lab report showing positive immunity.)***

Three doses are required for all matriculating students or a blood test showing immunity. All students will be required to have all three doses of the hepatitis B vaccine as outlined in the following schedule. The second dose should be at least 28 days after the first dose and the third dose at least 16 weeks after first dose and at least 8 weeks after the second dose. If there is no time to complete a series before matriculation, an appointment may be made at University Health Services when the next dose of vaccine is due.

*Full discussion on Hepatitis B vaccine for medical providers:*

The vaccine is usually administered as a three-dose series on a 0-, 1-, and 6-month schedule. We accept alternative schedules as delineated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2018/infectious-diseases-related-to-travel/hepatitis-b>. In order to accept alternative schedules, documentation of the type, manufacturer, and dosage of the vaccine used has to be documented legibly at the immunization record.

## **Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)**

*(Immunizations that do not follow this schedule must include a lab report showing positive immunity.)*

Two doses of MMR are required. Dose one of MMR must be administered after the first birthday, and the second given a minimum of four weeks after the first dose. Alternatively, a blood test within the last year showing immunity for all three components of the vaccine will be accepted. If there is not time to complete a series before matriculation, an appointment may be made at University Health Services when the next dose of vaccine is due.

## **Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis –Adult type (Tdap)**

A single Tdap (tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid, reduced acellular pertussis) immunization is required for individuals who have completed the recommended childhood series of vaccines for tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (DTP/DTaP). Tdap vaccine is not available in many countries outside the United States of America. Tdap appears with the following trade names: Adacel, Boostrix, Repevax. We accept only an ADULT pertussis booster, given after the 11<sup>th</sup> birthday and after 2005. If you are unable to receive this vaccine before you arrive on campus, you should make an appointment at University Health Services. The Tdap vaccine is one of the required immunizations and you will not be considered compliant unless you receive it, regardless of whether you have recently received a Td booster.

## **Meningococcal Vaccine**

Meningococcal vaccine (covering serogroups A,C,Y and W-135) is required for all incoming undergraduate students and all graduate students living in dormitory campus housing, defined as New Graduate College, Old Graduate College, and the Annexes: 11 Dickinson, 15 Dickinson, 16 Dickinson, 24 Dickinson, 35 University Place, 45 University Place, and 31 Edwards. We accept Menactra, Menomune, Menveo or Nimenrix. One dose of MenACWY is required after the 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, and within the last 5 years, for all students living in a dormitory-style facility.

Regardless of living situation, any student under the age of 30 is encouraged to receive vaccination against meningococcal disease.

## **Tuberculosis Testing**

A Tuberculin Skin test (TST) or Quantiferon Gold test is required for students who are identified as higher risk through a screening questionnaire located at [www.princeton.edu/myuhs](http://www.princeton.edu/myuhs) under Forms tab - Health History. *A new or past positive test must be accompanied by a chest x-ray report within the last year.*

A TST is required if you have a medical condition that weakens the immune system, have symptoms of tuberculosis (fever, night sweats, cough, and weight loss), have spent time with someone who has tuberculosis, use illegal drugs, have lived or worked in homeless shelters, prison or jails, or some nursing homes, or have spent 3 or more months in a country where tuberculosis is common <https://uhs.princeton.edu/sites/uhs/files/TB-countries-list.pdf>.

# Recommended Immunizations

The following vaccines are not required for matriculation. However, these vaccines are recommended for certain people as listed below. All of these vaccines are available at Student Health Services.

## Meningitis B Vaccine

In 2014 at Princeton University and in 2016 at another local institution, there were outbreaks of Meningitis B. For this reason, we recommend that all incoming students, especially those living in dormitory style facilities, to be vaccinated for Meningitis B. There are two different vaccine products by two different manufacturers – Bexsero, a two dose vaccine, and Trumenba, a three dose vaccine. They are not interchangeable – so be sure to indicate which vaccine you are receiving when you send in your immunization record.

## Hepatitis A

Hepatitis A vaccine is recommended for all travelers; individuals who have chronic liver disease, hepatitis B or C; illegal drug users; men who have sex with men; individuals with clotting-factor disorders; working with hepatitis A virus in experimental lab settings (not routine medical laboratories); food handlers and anyone wishing to obtain immunity to hepatitis A.

## Influenza Vaccine (Flu shot)

The single best way to prevent the seasonal flu is to get an annual influenza vaccination. [Learn more about the flu vaccine.](#)

## Pneumococcal (Pneumovax and Pneumococcal Polysaccharide)

If you have a disease or condition that lowers the body's resistance to infection, such as: Hodgkin's disease, lymphoma or leukemia, kidney failure, multiple myeloma, nephritic syndrome, HIV infection or AIDS, damaged spleen or no spleen, organ transplant, long term steroids, certain cancer drugs, radiation therapy, smoking and asthma.

## Varicella (Chicken Pox)

The varicella (chickenpox) vaccine is a two series immunization given 4 weeks apart. It is recommended for all students who do not have a documented history of disease or a positive titer verifying immunity.

## Exemptions from requirements

Students may be exempted from the immunization requirements if there is a valid medical contraindication or due to their religious beliefs. Students seeking a medical exemption must submit a signed statement from a physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist indicating that an immunization is medically contraindicated for a specific period of time, and explaining why based on a valid medical reason. Students seeking exemption based on their religious beliefs must submit a signed Application for Exemption from

Immunization explaining how the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with their religious beliefs. The Application may be requested by contacting University Health Services. Students are still required to complete other matriculation requirements, including providing their health and immunization history. Additional immunization requirements/considerations may apply to students traveling internationally for a Princeton educational program.

UHS highly recommends that students with immunization exemptions submit results of titers (blood tests to determine immunity) for measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella. Students who do not do so, or whose results do not show that they have immunity, may be temporarily excluded from classes, residence halls, and any sponsored activities on campus in the event of a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak or threatened outbreak.