



BLESSING-RIEMAN
College of Nursing
& Health Sciences

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Owner **Reta Richmond**
Area **Student
Development
Committee**

Health and CPR Requirements

PURPOSE

To outline individual immunization and CPR requirements based on the academic program.

POLICY

Immunization Requirements

The State of Illinois legislation requires colleges and universities to collect proof of immunization from all on-campus students. This law applies to all full-time students and those part-time students registered for six or more hours of credit, enrolling after July 1, 1989, and born after January 1, 1957.

Students are required to have the following immunizations prior to patient contact:

- MMR (Measles, Mumps, & Rubella)
- Hepatitis B
- TB
- Td (Diphtheria/Tetanus series or booster)
- Influenza
- Varicella
- Covid-19

Exceptions:

- The following immunizations are not required if the student shows evidence of immunity via antibody titer testing.
 - MMR
 - Hepatitis B

- Td (Diphtheria/Tetanus)
- Varicella
- The student may choose to sign a waiver, or exemption form for any immunization other than TB or MMR for either medical or religious reasons.
 - Contraindications for an immunization require a letter from the student's primary care provider.
- Students who are enrolled exclusively in online courses are exempt from these immunization requirements unless in person clinical/practicums are required.

CPR

The only acceptable CPR certification is through the American Heart Association (**BLS Provider**). CPR certification must be renewed prior to expiration.

Submission

Students must submit proof of immunizations and CPR course completion in the CastleBranch portal. Students who fail to submit proof are prohibited from attending classes and clinical.

Questions

Questions may be directed to the Student and Alumni Services Officer at 217-228-5520 ext. 6990 or to CastleBranch at 888-666-7788.

PROCEDURE

Immunizations

The following describes the immunization schedule:

- MMR – 2 doses – initial dose; second dose at least 28 days later
- Hepatitis B – initial dose; second dose 4 weeks after first dose; third dose 5 months after second dose
- TB – initial 2-step PPD skin test, blood test, or three (3) year history of a one-step PPD skin test followed by yearly updates
 - 2-step test: an initial test with reading of results 48-72 hours later followed by a second test given 1-3 weeks after the first test with reading of results 48-72 hours later
 - Yearly update: one test given with reading of results 48-72 hours later
- Td (Diphtheria/Tetanus series or booster) – within the last 10 years
- Influenza – 1 dose annually (typically to be received in late September through the end of October)
- Varicella – 2 doses given at least 28 days apart

- Covid-19 - one or 2 doses depending on the maker, no boosters are required at this time).
 - Weekly testing per policy requirements with approved exemption

Students who have positive-reacting TB skin tests must submit results of their chest X-rays and fill out the Annual Tuberculosis Health Questionnaire.

During periods of regional or widespread influenza activity, students who signed a waiver for the influenza vaccine will be required to wear an isolation mask at all times except when they are in designated eating areas such as break rooms, cafeterias, coffee shops, or tea rooms. Students who are with the requirement to wear a mask will be counseled and disciplined according to the Student Code of Conduct.

CPR

Blessing Hospital offers CPR classes through Nursing Professional Development (NPD). Space is limited, so reservations are required by calling 217-223-8400, ext. 4860. Students may opt instead for the online course (HeartCode® BLS) by going to <https://shopcpr.heart.org/heartcode-bls>. Following the online portion, an in-person hands-on skills session is required by a certified AHA BLS Instructor. Students may call NPD at the number above to help with scheduling their skills portion.

Deadlines

Immunization and CPR requirements must be completed by the deadline based on the student's enrollment date. Students who do not meet the designated deadline will not be permitted to attend classes, clinical, or any other events on campus and will be disciplined according to the Student Code of Conduct.

Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
Approval by College Senate	Reta Richmond: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	07/2022
Approval by Student Development Committee	Jessica Bliven: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	07/2022
Approval by Student Development Committee	Andrew Griesbaum: STUDENT/ ALUMNI SERVICE OFFICER	07/2022