



BLESSING-RIEMAN
**College of Nursing
& Health Sciences**

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Approved

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Owner Reta Richmond:
EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT-
BRCN

Area Student
Development
Committee

References Board
reviewed 5/
15/25.

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, or tests prior to attending class, clinical or patient contact:

- Measles, Mumps, & Rubella (MMR)
- Hepatitis B
- Tuberculosis (TB) test
- Tetanus, Diphtheria, & Pertussis series or booster (Tdap/Td)
- Influenza
- Varicella

Exceptions:

- The following immunizations are not required if the student shows evidence of immunity via antibody titer testing.
 - MMR
 - Hepatitis B
 - Tdap/Td
 - Varicella
- The following immunization is not required, however, if it has been received we request documentation.
 - Covid-19
- The student may request a waiver 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 no later than midnight of the expiration date or recommended renewal date.

Submission

Students must submit proof of immunizations and CPR course completion in the CastleBranch portal by the end of day on census day. Students who fail to submit proof by census day are prohibited from attending classes and clinical and are not exempt from any College or course policies and procedures. Students may be counseled and disciplined according to the Student Code of Conduct. Students who have excessive absence may fail class and/or clinical.

Questions

Questions may be directed to the Student 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

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 required to wear a mask and refuse to do so will be counseled and disciplined according to the Student Code of Conduct.

Illness

Being on a college campus presents many opportunities for illnesses to spread quickly. If you do become ill, we recommend that you take precautions so you do not infect other members of the campus community, which may include missing class or work or wearing a mask when around others. If you do have a fever or other significant symptoms, we encourage you to remain home until you are fever-free or major symptom-free for 24 hours.

CPR

Blessing Hospital offers CPR classes through Organizational Development (OD). 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 OD at the number above to help with scheduling their skills portion.

Attachments

 [2021.3.16 Student Personal \(Health and CPR Requirements\).pdf](#)

 [HepB Waiver \(Health and CPR Requirements\).pdf](#)



[ID- 12299075 Influenza Vaccination \(Administration and Waiver\) 09-2022 \(Health and CPR Requirements\).pdf](#)

[📎 MMR Vaccination \(Administration and Waiver\) - 2024.11.pdf](#)

[📎 Tdap Waiver \(Health and CPR Requirements\).pdf](#)

[📎 Varicella waiver \(Health and CPR Requirements\).pdf](#)

Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
Approval by College Senate	Reta Richmond: EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT-BRCN	04/2025
Approval by Student Development Committee	Jessica Loos: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	04/2025
Approval by Student Development Committee	Andrew Griesbaum: STUDENT SERVICE OFFICER-BRCN	03/2025