

2.3 Immunizations and Documentation Requirements

Any student enrolled in any two or four-year institution of higher education (schools, universities) listed in the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's list are required to have the following immunizations. This is applicable to all students enrolled in health-related courses **that will involve direct patient contact** in medical or dental facilities, regardless of number of courses taken, number of hours taken, and classification of student. Students considered to be provisionally enrolled cannot enroll without receipt of at least one dose of MMR vaccine if direct patient contact will occur during the provisional enrollment. These requirements must be completed prior to students beginning their first nursing semester. All students must have all requirements completed in the Castle Branch system before they attend clinical. Failure to produce documentation of met requirements will result in a missed clinical day. Students have the right to decline immunizations or insurance but may be denied clinical placement in specific facilities and faculty cannot ensure alternate placement.

2.3.1 Immunizations

Students enrolled in nursing courses are required to certify immunity to or to certify immunization of the following vaccines at the beginning of each semester:

Influenza: One of the following is required: documentation of a flu shot administered during the current flu season (August-May)

OR

Declination signed by a healthcare provider.

Documentation DOES NOT need to indicate that the vaccine you received is from the batch of the current flu season.

Renewal date will be set to 11/01 of the following flu season

Note: Annual flu vaccines are mandatory for all nursing students. In the event that a student enters enrollment during the months of June through September, the student will be required to have an influenza vaccine again by October 1st, or upon the first date the current flu vaccine is available.

Hepatitis B Series: Positive antibody titer (lab report or physician verification required)

If a titer result is negative, you may have to complete additional vaccines before repeating your titer to retest your immunity. Depending on your immunity status to each disease and the guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), it can take up to 8 months to meet compliance.

Measles, Mumps, & Rubella (MMR): Positive antibody titers for all 3 components (lab report or health care provide verification required)

If a titer result is negative, you may have to complete additional vaccines before repeating your titer to retest your immunity. Depending on your immunity status to each disease and the guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), it can take up to 8 months to meet compliance.

Tetanus, Diphtheria, & Pertussis (Tdap): Submit documentation of a Tdap booster administered within the past 10 years. The renewal date will be set 10 years from the administered date.

Polio: Although the polio vaccine is not required for any student, nursing students are encouraged to ascertain that they are immune to poliomyelitis.

Varicella (Chicken Pox): Positive antibody titer (lab report or physician verification required)

If a titer result is negative, you may have to complete additional vaccines before repeating your titer to retest your immunity. Depending on your immunity status to each disease and the guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), it can take up to 8 months to meet compliance.

2.3.2 TB Screening

Tuberculosis Screening:

Non-International Students: 2.4.2 TB Screening Tuberculosis Screening: It is recommended that students obtain requirements for TB screening through the University Health Clinic, 3310 Patriot Drive, Tyler, Tx 75701; Office Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 903.939.7870

Documentation of a result is required. The frequency and type of tuberculin screening depends upon if this is initial testing and the duration of time between tests:

- A negative PPD Mantoux tuberculin skin test (TST) OR
- A negative blood assay (IGRA): (QuantiFERON (QFT) or T-Spot)
- **NOTE:** students receiving their first tuberculin screening or having their last tuberculin skin test (TST) more than 2 years ago, proof of a 2-step TST or a single blood assay (IGRA) test followed by an annual TST is required.
- Students who have received the BCG vaccine must present a negative blood assay.
- Students with a TST within the previous 12 months, a single TST is required followed by an annual negative TST

Annual documentation required: Negative tuberculin skin test (TST) or negative blood assay (IGRA): (QuantiFERON (QFT) or T-Spot)

Students who have a positive TST, IGRA, or prior treatment for TB are recommended to follow up with the University Health Clinic for referral (location and phone above).

The following is required:

- Proof of a negative chest x-ray is required (repeated yearly x rays are not required unless recommended by a healthcare provider).
- Student must be referred to a health department for further evaluation.
- Treatment for latent TB infection (LTBI) should be considered in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- Documentation of treatment (beginning and completion) will be scanned into the designated immunization tracking system for reference.
- Students will be followed by the school's staff and/or administrators regarding requirements yearly after the student is admitted.
- **Annual documentation required:** Completed TB symptom screening form which is signed by a health care provider. <https://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/files/tb-employee-questionnaire-ut-tyler.pdf>

Students with potential active TB should wear a mask and receive medical care immediately according to the health department or the student's health care provider.

International Students (International Student Services (ISS) supports all F and J visa international students who attend UT Tyler for academic study) **and** students that originate from a country that is defined as high burden for TB <http://www.stoptb.org/countries/tbdata.asp>

Does the TB screen hold apply to me?- <https://www.uttyler.edu/oip/tb-clearance.php>

Exceptions may be allowable on an individual basis for medical contraindications and religious conflicts. Clinical faculty will report the exceptions using the forms below to the clinical facilities, and then determine if the student can care for patients at that facility. The forms will be maintained in the Castle Branch document library.

- Form for Exception to Immunization Requirements for Clinical Placement

<https://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/files/policies/additional-files/Clinical-Requirement-Exception-Notice.pdf>

Students with medical contraindications must submit written verification documentation from a health care provider that the immunization required would be harmful to the health and well-being of the student or any member of the student's family or household. Unless a lifelong condition is specified, the verification is valid for only one year from the date signed by the physician.

Students whose religious beliefs forbid the use of vaccines must present an affidavit signed by the applicant stating that the immunization conflicts with the tenants and practice of a recognized church or religious denomination of which the applicant is an adherent or member.

Requirements for polio, measles, rubella, mumps, and hepatitis B vaccine are waived during pregnancy.

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/should-not-vacc.html>

- Pregnant female students who submit written documentation of a positive pregnancy test are not required to take any of the above listed vaccines with the exception of Tdap. If the student has not had a Tdap within the last 10 years, it is best to delay the administration of Tdap until the second trimester. There are no contraindications to Tdap during pregnancy after the first trimester.

2.3.3 Liability Insurance

Professional liability insurance fees will be added to the bill at registration.

2.3.4 Licensure

Licensure Verification for current registered nurses (RNs): For all licensed nurses, current licensure in the state will be verified before admission is considered. Please submit a copy of the verification of licensure from the state Board of Nursing website showing license number AND expiration date. Renewal date will be set based on the expiration of licensure.

Any licensed nurse with a current license restriction or who receives a subsequent restriction after admission to the SON must contact the appropriate program director. Progression in the program will be contingent upon the nature of the restriction.

2.3.5 CPR

Submit your current CPR certification. Must be the American Heart Association Healthcare Provider course. Copy of BOTH the front AND the back of your card is required and the card **MUST** be signed. The temporary certificate of letter from provider will be accepted and temporarily approved for 30 days by which time the permanent documentation must be uploaded. Renewal date will be set based on expiration of certification.

2.3.6 Health Insurance

Submit a copy of your current health insurance card OR proof of coverage.

Verification of coverage provider is required if the name on the document does not match.

The renewal date will be set to 1 year from the date of upload.

Clinical faculty will report the exceptions using the forms below to the clinical facilities, and then determine if the student can care for patients at that facility. The forms will be maintained in the Castle Branch document library.

- Form for Exception to Health Insurance Requirement for Clinical Placement

<https://www.utt Tyler.edu/nursing/files/policies/additional-files/Health-Insurance-Exception-Notice.pdf>

- By waiving personal healthcare coverage, the student agrees to accept all financial responsibility for any injury associated with clinicals, as required for the BSN program.

2.3.7 Student Handbook

Please download, print, sign, scan and upload the Student Handbook form that is available to download from this requirement.

Handbook is available to download from:

<https://www.utt Tyler.edu/nursing/college/documents/2020-21-son-student-guide-8.16.20.pdf>