

FAQs: Immunization and TB Clearance Requirements

Q: How do I get a record of the required immunizations?

A: Contact your doctor's office, or you may be able to access your electronic medical record or other immunization record online, or by contacting your high school. It is essential that you get all the required information, have any blood tests or any vaccines you require BEFORE you submit your immunization record or download it from the student website. **UC Davis has an [Immunization form](#) on the Student website. You can take this form to your doctor and have them complete the form. Once completed, it can be uploaded using the [health-e-messaging](#) patient portal, also known as HEM.**

Q: How does UC determine which vaccines and screening to require?

A: The UC is following the recommendations of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Immunization Branch for Colleges and Universities found on the website at <http://www.shotsforschool.org/college/>.

The current requirements reflect those in place on February 24, 2016. However, UC reserves the right to modify these requirements pending revisions to the recommendations by CDPH. Changes in CDPH's recommendations will be incorporated into the requirements affecting the incoming fall class each year.

In general, these requirements pertain to those vaccine-preventable illnesses that can be spread by respiratory secretions (saliva, coughing, sneezing), and pose a risk to others who might become ill due to classroom or residential contact. These include: measles, mumps, rubella (German measles), pertussis (whooping cough), varicella (Chickenpox), and meningitis, as well as screening for tuberculosis.

Q: Why is the UC implementing this policy?

A: There has been an increase in outbreaks of vaccine-preventable illnesses over the past five to ten years, and now many illnesses which we thought were disappearing are returning. Although many of these diseases are considered "mild", they can cause serious illness and death. Pertussis was responsible for hospital stays for hundreds of people in California during the past two years, including intensive care admissions and in a few cases, death. Recent outbreaks of measles also resulted in hospitalizations, and new cases of mumps across the country threaten the health and fertility of non-immune students.

Q: I/my family have concerns regarding the safety of vaccines and have chosen not to be vaccinated. Will I be prevented from attending classes at UC if I do not obtain the required vaccines?

A: Beginning fall of 2018, students who have not provided evidence of the required vaccinations will not be able to complete their final registration without a [Medical Exemption Request](#).

Q: I had an allergic reaction to a vaccination. Am I still required to be vaccinated to enter UC?

A: It is very important that the doctor/nurse practitioner/physician assistant who cared for you at that time, document what happened to you when you had the problem with vaccination. If you had a true "allergic reaction," then we will need to know which vaccination caused the problem, and whether you were able to become immune to that illness. You will need to complete a [Medical Exemption Request](#), and submit to your campus health center. If they deny your request for an exemption, you have a right to appeal their decision by a UC wide panel. Read more about the [Medical Exemption Policy](#).

Q: Is there a process to request a personal/religious belief exemption from the UC Immunization Plan?

A: Only a medical exemption will be allowed.

Q. When must I submit my online Immunization Record or TB screening?

A: All records must be received by the first day of classes. We recommend that you log in as soon as you can and check **Medical Clearances** on your HEM portal. Enter your immunization dates and upload your vaccination record forms as soon as possible because we may also ask you to complete a *Tuberculosis Health Assessment Form*. There will be a hold on your registration until you have completed ALL of the required items for the immunization compliance process, and you may be prevented from registering for classes.

Q: How does the Tuberculosis (TB) Screening process work?

A: Complete the TB Screening questionnaire via the [Health-e-Messaging website](#)

- If your responses to the TB Screening indicate that you have low risks factors for TB, you are automatically compliant.
- If your responses to the screening indicate that you are at higher risk, you may need to enter additional information or complete further testing. In that case, you will see a banner saying, **Further Action Necessary**. If you have the medical information necessary to demonstrate compliance in any of the ways listed, you may enter those dates and upload a copy of those records.
- You must also download the [TB Health Assessment form](#) and take it to your Primary Care Provider. Once any required testing is complete and your provider has determined you are free of active TB, the provider must complete and sign the TB Health Assessment form. Upload the completed and signed form via Health-e-Messaging.
- Carefully follow the TESTING instructions on the TB Health Assessment form. Incomplete forms or medical information entered in a language other than English will not be accepted and you will NOT be cleared to register for classes.
- Once you have uploaded the form and any required documentation, our staff will review your records. Please allow at least 14-21 business days for processing.
- Once a requirement is satisfied, your clearance status will change automatically to **Compliant**.
- When you have completed ALL of your Medical Clearance requirements, your **Overall Clearance Status** will show as **Satisfied**.

Q: What should I do if I have lost my Tuberculosis Health Assessment Form?

A: Click on this link [TB Health Assessment Form](#) or go to the [New Student Resource page](#).

Q: Is the UC Davis Immunization worksheet required?

A: No, the UC Davis form is not required. You are required to enter each date of vaccination for the required vaccines. Once entered, you can submit your immunization documents, your yellow immunization card, or a copy of your immunizations from the doctor's office.

Q: If I've had chickenpox as a child, why do I need the varicella immunization?

A: Unfortunately, having had chickenpox as a child is not proof of immunity. If you believe you are immune and do not wish to be immunized for varicella, then you need a varicella titer; this is a blood test that will indicate whether you are immune. If you prefer not to do the blood test, you will need the varicella vaccination.

Q: Why do I need the meningococcal vaccination if I've already gotten it?

A: The meningococcal vaccination must be given on or after age 16. If you received the meningococcal vaccine prior to Age 16, you will need to get vaccinated again.

Q: What if a required vaccination is not available in my country?

A: You can get the vaccination at the Student Health and Wellness Center here at UC Davis. Please schedule your appointment as soon as you arrive to campus. You can schedule your appointment by calling 530.752.2349. Delays in scheduling your appointment may result in holds for future course registrations.