

Important Health Information for New Students

As a public health measure, and in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control guidelines, the University of Iowa requires verification of measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) immunization for all students born after 12/31/1956. Our MMR immunization policy appears below.

- New students are required to fulfill the MMR Immunization Policy before the opening of classes. Students who fail to comply will not be allowed to register for subsequent sessions.
- Please note the additional required immunizations for **health science students** on the Immunization Form. A Hepatitis B titre is required to confirm immunity to Hepatitis B before you begin patient care. In the event of a needlestick or other blood exposure, knowing your Hepatitis B immune status is important in guiding your care.
- It is to your advantage to fill out the entire Medical History form in case you need to avail yourself of our services during the course of your UI career.
- If you have a health problem or disability, please ask your provider to send us any information which may be of assistance in providing care to you.

Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Immunization Policy

Immunization to measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) is a requirement for registration. To comply, complete the Immunization Form and return it to the University Student Health Service (or forward a signed photocopy of your official immunization record) by the opening of classes. Students who do not comply will not be permitted to register for subsequent sessions.

The MMR immunization requirement is FULFILLED if you meet one of the following criteria:

- Were born on or before 12/31/1956; **OR**
- Received two doses of MMR vaccine. The first must be after your 1st birthday and in 1969 or later. The second is usually given at 4-6 years of age but must be at least 28 days after your first immunization; **OR**
- Have copies of MMR blood tests that verify immunity to these diseases.

Exemption from immunization will be permitted for the following reasons:

- Immunization is contraindicated. Contraindications include severe allergy to eggs or a drug called neomycin; presence of cancer, leukemia, or lymphoma; presence of chronic disease which lowers your resistance to infection; taking cortisone, prednisone, or anticancer drugs; or having received gamma globulin within the preceding three months. Your medical contraindication must be validated by providing a signed letter from your healthcare provider, or by completing the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) medical exemption form. This form must be signed by your healthcare provider.

<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/ImmTB/Immunization.aspx?prog=Imm&pg=Laws>

- Pregnancy or suspected pregnancy.
- Religious beliefs. Those seeking exemption because of religious doctrine must provide a signed letter from your religious official, or submit a completed IDPH religious exemption form. Note that a religious exemption is allowed when there is a “genuine and sincere religious belief” and not for philosophical, scientific, moral or personal opposition to immunization. The IDPH religious exemption form is only valid when notarized.

<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/ImmTB/Immunization.aspx?prog=Imm&pg=Laws>

Please complete your Immunization Form and return it promptly to:

Student Health Service
The University of Iowa
4189 Westlawn
Iowa City IA 52242-1100
Fax: 319-335-7247

Make sure your name and birthdate appear on both sides of all pages of information you send or fax.