

Westfield State University Student Health Center Services

Document Number: SS002 **Effective Date:** 2023-09-01

Mission/Purpose

The mission of the Westfield State University (WSU) Student Health Center is to provide accessible, high-quality, and confidential health and wellness services to the university community. We are dedicated to promoting student well-being, supporting academic success, and fostering a healthy campus environment. Our purpose is to be the primary resource for students' physical and mental health needs, offering a comprehensive range of services from preventative care to treatment of acute illnesses and injuries.

Services Offered

The WSU Student Health Center provides a wide array of services to meet the diverse health needs of our students. Our services are designed to be comprehensive, confidential, and tailored to the unique challenges of student life.

Medical Services

Our medical team, consisting of board-certified physicians, nurse practitioners, and registered nurses, offers a broad range of primary and preventative care services, including:

- **Treatment of common illnesses and injuries:** Colds, flu, sore throats, minor cuts, and sprains.
- **Management of chronic conditions:** Asthma, diabetes, and other long-term health issues.
- **Physical examinations:** For academic programs, sports, and general wellness.

- **Women's health:** Gynecological exams, contraceptive counseling, and STI/STD testing and treatment.
- **Men's health:** Testicular exams, STI/STD testing and treatment, and general wellness.
- **Travel medicine:** Pre-travel consultations, immunizations, and health advice for students traveling abroad.
- **Allergy services:** Allergy testing and immunotherapy (allergy shots).

Immunization Requirements

Westfield State University requires all students to be immunized against certain communicable diseases in accordance with state law and public health recommendations. Proof of immunization must be submitted to the Student Health Center prior to the start of classes. Required immunizations include:

- Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)
- Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (Tdap)
- Varicella (Chickenpox)
- Meningococcal (for students living in residence halls)

We also strongly recommend the annual influenza (flu) vaccine, which is available at the Student Health Center each fall.

Insurance Accepted

The WSU Student Health Center accepts the university-sponsored Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) as well as a variety of private health insurance plans. Please bring your insurance card to every visit. For students without insurance, or for services not covered by insurance, we offer a discounted fee-for-service schedule. No student will be denied care due to inability to pay.

Pharmacy Services

Our on-site pharmacy provides a convenient and affordable option for prescription medications. We stock a wide range of common medications, and our pharmacist is available for consultations and to answer any questions you may have about your prescriptions. Over-the-counter medications are also available for purchase.

After-Hours Care

For medical needs that arise outside of our regular business hours, students can access our ²⁴/₇ Nurse Advice Line. A registered nurse is available to provide medical advice and guidance on whether to seek immediate medical attention. For emergencies, please call 911 or visit the nearest hospital emergency room.

Eligibility and Access

All currently enrolled full-time and part-time students at Westfield State University are eligible to use the services of the Student Health Center. Spouses and domestic partners of students may also be eligible for certain services; please inquire for more details. A valid student ID is required at the time of service.

How to Access Services

Location: The Student Health Center is located on the first floor of the University Wellness Building, centrally located on campus for easy access.

Hours of Operation:

- Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- Saturday: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (for urgent care appointments only)
- Sunday: Closed

Contact Information:

- **Appointments:** (555) 123-4567
- **General Inquiries:** (555) 123-4568
- **²⁴/₇ Nurse Advice Line:** (800) 555-NURS
- **Email:** healthcenter@westfieldstate.edu

Appointment Scheduling

Appointments are required for all non-urgent medical services. To schedule an appointment, please call our appointment line during business hours or use our online student health portal. We recommend scheduling appointments in advance to ensure you can be seen at a time that is convenient for you. For urgent medical needs, we offer a limited number of same-day appointments.

Confidentiality

The WSU Student Health Center is a confidential resource. Your medical records are kept strictly confidential and are not part of your academic record. We will not release any information about your health to anyone without your written permission, except as required by law. This includes parents, faculty, and other university officials.

Related Resources and Referrals

In addition to the services offered at the Student Health Center, we provide referrals to a network of trusted community providers for specialized medical care. We also work closely with other campus resources to support your overall well-being, including:

- **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS):** For mental health and wellness support.
- **Disability Services:** For academic accommodations and support for students with disabilities.
- **University Police:** For on-campus emergencies and safety concerns.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Do I need to have the university-sponsored health insurance to use the Student Health Center?

A: No, all students are eligible to use our services regardless of their insurance coverage. We accept a variety of insurance plans and offer a discounted fee-for-service option for those without insurance.

Q: What if I have a medical emergency when the Student Health Center is closed?

A: For life-threatening emergencies, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency room. For non-emergency medical advice, you can call our ²⁴/₇ Nurse Advice Line.

Q: Can my parents access my medical records?

A: No, your medical records are confidential. We cannot share any information with your parents or anyone else without your written consent.

Revision History

Version	Date	Author	Summary of Changes
1.0	2023-09-01	Student Health	Initial document creation.
1.1	2024-01-15	Dr. Emily Carter	Updated immunization requirements and insurance information.