



MCPHS UNIVERSITY IMMUNIZATION POLICY

In accordance with state law and University policy, students must show proof of required immunizations. Non-compliance with University immunization requirements will result in adverse action up to and including administrative withdrawal from the University, and may negatively impact progression in an academic program.

How and when to report your immunizations to MCPHS:

Students must submit documentation demonstrating compliance with the MCPHS Immunization Policy prior to the first day of the first semester of admission to the University. MCPHS University works with an external company, CastleBranch (and SentryMD prior to 2013) to support immunization tracking and management.

- All new students to MCPHS beginning with the 2013 summer semester should submit their immunization documentation to CastleBranch.
- All existing MCPHS students enrolled prior to the 2013 summer semester should continue to submit their immunization documentation to SentryMD.

The following MCPHS students must show proof of required immunizations:

- All full-time students, including students attending MCPHS while on a visa who will be on campus;
- All part-time students, including students attending MCPHS while on a visa who will be on campus;
- All online students who might be in contact with patients;
- All online students whose program involves an on-campus component; and
- All students attending or visiting MCPHS as part of a formal academic visitation or exchange program.

ACUPUNCTURE

- Measles vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Mumps vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Rubella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis vaccinations 1 dose of Tdap and either a history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. See [CDC schedule](#). Tdap given ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since last Tdap.
- Hepatitis B immunization series (3 doses) followed by laboratory evidence of immunity; or Heplisav-B vaccine (2 doses, first dose must be given on or after the student's 18th birthday, and the second dose must be given at least 28 days after the first dose) followed by laboratory evidence of immunity. Laboratory evidence of immunity alone is also acceptable.

- Varicella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday); laboratory evidence of immunity; or physician diagnosis of varicella.
- Annual Tuberculosis skin test or Tuberculosis blood test. If results are positive, a clear chest x-ray (with laboratory report or physician verification of results) or a physician letter verifying the student is symptom free is required each year.
- Annual influenza shot (Must be obtained as soon as the vaccine for the annual flu season becomes available each fall).
- Meningococcal vaccination: 1 dose of MenACWY (formerly MCV4) received on or after the student's 16th birthday required only for students under the age of 22. Meningococcal B vaccine does not meet this requirement.
- COVID-19 Primary series Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech – 2 doses at least 21 days apart; Moderna – 2 doses at least 28 days apart; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 1 dose; WHO authorized vaccine – completion of scheduled series of the vaccine. Series must be completed at least 2 weeks prior to access to campus.
- COVID-19 Booster Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or WHO authorized vaccine – 5 months after last dose in primary series; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 2 months after primary dose.

DENTAL HYGIENE

- Measles vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Mumps vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Rubella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis vaccinations 1 dose of Tdap and either a history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. See [CDC schedule](#). Tdap given ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since last Tdap.
- Hepatitis B immunization series (3 doses) followed by laboratory evidence of immunity; or Heplisav-B vaccine (2 doses, first dose must be given on or after the student's 18th birthday, and the second dose must be given at least 28 days after the first dose) followed by laboratory evidence of immunity. Laboratory evidence of immunity alone is also acceptable.
- Varicella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday); laboratory evidence of immunity; or physician diagnosis of varicella.
- Tuberculosis skin test or Tuberculosis blood test within the past 12 months. If results are positive, a clear chest x-ray (with laboratory report or physician verification of results) or a physician letter verifying the student is symptom free is required each year.
- Annual influenza shot (Must be obtained as soon as the vaccine for the annual flu season becomes available each fall).
- Meningococcal vaccination: 1 dose of MenACWY (formerly MCV4) received on or after the student's 16th birthday required only for students under the age of 22. Meningococcal B vaccine does not meet this requirement.

- COVID-19 Primary series Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech – 2 doses at least 21 days apart; Moderna – 2 doses at least 28 days apart; Janssen (Johnson& Johnson) – 1 dose; WHO authorized vaccine – completion of scheduled series of the vaccine. Series must be completed at least 2 weeks prior to access to campus.
- COVID-19 Booster Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or WHO authorized vaccine – 5 months after last dose in primary series; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 2 months after primary dose.

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

- Measles vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Mumps vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Rubella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis vaccinations 1 dose of Tdap and either a history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. See [CDC schedule](#). Tdap given ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since last Tdap.
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- Varicella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday); laboratory evidence of immunity; or physician diagnosis of varicella.
- Annual Tuberculosis skin test or Tuberculosis blood test. If results are positive, a clear chest x-ray (with laboratory report or physician verification of results) or a physician letter verifying the student is symptom free is required each year.*
- Annual influenza shot (Must be obtained as soon as the vaccine for the annual flu season becomes available each fall). *
- Meningococcal vaccination: 1 dose of MenACWY (formerly MCV4) received on or after the student's 16th birthday required only for students under the age of 22. Meningococcal B vaccine does not meet this requirement.
- COVID-19 Primary series Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech – 2 doses at least 21 days apart; Moderna – 2 doses at least 28 days apart; Janssen (Johnson& Johnson) – 1 dose; WHO authorized vaccine – completion of scheduled series of the vaccine. Series must be completed at least 2 weeks prior to access to campus.
- COVID-19 Booster Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or WHO authorized vaccine – 5 months after last dose in primary series; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 2 months after primary dose.

***Doctor of Pharmacy-Boston students** must complete these requirements during Year III (First Professional Year of the curriculum) and annually thereafter.

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY, MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING, NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY, RADIATION THERAPY, AND RADIOGRAPHY

- Measles vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Mumps vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Rubella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
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- Annual Tuberculosis skin test or Tuberculosis blood test. If results are positive, a clear chest x-ray (with laboratory report or physician verification of results) or a physician letter verifying the student is symptom free is required each year.
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- COVID-19 Booster Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or WHO authorized vaccine – 5 months after last dose in primary series; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 2 months after primary dose.

MEDICAL IMAGING AND THERAPEUTICS

- Measles vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
Mumps vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Rubella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.

- Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis vaccinations 1 dose of Tdap and either a history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. See [CDC schedule](#). Tdap given ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since last Tdap.
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- Annual influenza shot (Must be obtained as soon as the vaccine for the annual flu season becomes available each fall).
- Meningococcal vaccination: 1 dose of MenACWY (formerly MCV4) received on or after the student's 16th birthday required only for students under the age of 22. Meningococcal B vaccine does not meet this requirement.
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- COVID-19 Booster Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or WHO authorized vaccine – 5 months after last dose in primary series; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 2 months after primary dose.

NURSING

- Measles vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Mumps vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Rubella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis vaccinations 1 dose of Tdap and either a history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. See [CDC schedule](#). Tdap given ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since last Tdap.
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- Varicella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday); laboratory evidence of immunity; or physician diagnosis of varicella.

- Annual Two-step Tuberculosis skin test (two tests within the last 12 months, completed 1-3 weeks apart) or Tuberculosis blood test within the past 12 months. If results are positive, a clear chest x-ray (with laboratory report or physician verification of results) or a physician letter verifying the student is symptom free is required each year. *
- Annual influenza shot (Must be obtained as soon as the vaccine for the annual flu season becomes available each fall).*
- Meningococcal vaccination: 1 dose of MenACWY (formerly MCV4) received on or after the student's 16th birthday required only for students under the age of 22. Meningococcal B vaccine does not meet this requirement.
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- COVID-19 Booster Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or WHO authorized vaccine – 5 months after last dose in primary series; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 2 months after primary dose.

***Bachelor of Science Nursing-Boston** this requirement must be met prior to entering the professional practice phase of the program and will need to be repeated at least yearly but maybe more often depending on the requirements of our clinical partners.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

- Measles vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Mumps vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Rubella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis vaccinations 1 dose of Tdap and either a history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. See [CDC schedule](#). Tdap given ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since last Tdap.
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- Varicella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday); laboratory evidence of immunity; or physician diagnosis of varicella.
- Annual Two-step Tuberculosis skin test (two tests within the last 12 months, completed 1-3 weeks apart) or Tuberculosis blood test within the past 12 months. If results are positive, a clear chest x-ray (with laboratory report or physician verification of results) or a physician letter verifying the student is symptom free is required each year.
- Annual influenza shot (Must be obtained as soon as the vaccine for the annual flu season becomes available each fall).

- Meningococcal vaccination: 1 dose of MenACWY (formerly MCV4) received on or after the student's 16th birthday required only for students under the age of 22. Meningococcal B vaccine does not meet this requirement.
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- COVID-19 Booster Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or WHO authorized vaccine – 5 months after last dose in primary series; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 2 months after primary dose.

OPTOMETRY

- Measles vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Mumps vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Rubella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis vaccinations 1 dose of Tdap and either a history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. See [CDC schedule](#). Tdap given ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since last Tdap.
- Hepatitis B immunization series (3 doses) followed by laboratory evidence of immunity; or Heplisav-B vaccine (2 doses, first dose must be given on or after the student's 18th birthday, and the second dose must be given at least 28 days after the first dose) followed by laboratory evidence of immunity. Laboratory evidence of immunity alone is also acceptable.
- Varicella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday); laboratory evidence of immunity; or physician diagnosis of varicella.
- Annual Tuberculosis skin test or Tuberculosis blood test within the past 12 months. If results are positive, a clear chest x-ray (with laboratory report or physician verification of results) or a physician letter verifying the student is symptom free is required.
- Annual influenza shot (Must be obtained as soon as the vaccine for the annual flu season becomes available each fall).
- Meningococcal vaccination: 1 dose of MenACWY (formerly MCV4) received on or after the student's 16th birthday required only for students under the age of 22. Meningococcal B vaccine does not meet this requirement.
- COVID-19 Primary series Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech – 2 doses at least 21 days apart; Moderna – 2 doses at least 28 days apart; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 1 dose; WHO authorized vaccine – completion of scheduled series of the vaccine. Series must be completed at least 2 weeks prior to access to campus.
- COVID-19 Booster Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or WHO authorized vaccine – 5 months after last dose in primary series; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 2 months after primary dose.

PHYSICAL THERAPY

- Measles vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Mumps vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Rubella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis vaccinations 1 dose of Tdap and either a history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. See [CDC schedule](#). Tdap given ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since last Tdap.
- Hepatitis B immunization series (3 doses) followed by laboratory evidence of immunity; or Heplisav-B vaccine (2 doses, first dose must be given on or after the student's 18th birthday, and the second dose must be given at least 28 days after the first dose) followed by laboratory evidence of immunity. Laboratory evidence of immunity alone is also acceptable.
- Varicella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday); laboratory evidence of immunity; or physician diagnosis of varicella.
- Two-step Tuberculosis skin test (two tests within the last 12 months, completed 1-3 weeks apart) or Tuberculosis blood test within the past 12 months; followed by an annual 1 step TB test. If results are positive, a clear chest x-ray (with laboratory report or physician verification of results) or a physician letter verifying the student is symptom free is required each year.
- Annual influenza shot (Must be obtained as soon as the vaccine for the annual flu season becomes available each fall).
- Meningococcal vaccination: 1 dose of MenACWY (formerly MCV4) received on or after the student's 16th birthday required only for students under the age of 22. Meningococcal B vaccine does not meet this requirement.
- COVID-19 Primary series Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech – 2 doses at least 21 days apart; Moderna – 2 doses at least 28 days apart; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 1 dose; WHO authorized vaccine – completion of scheduled series of the vaccine. Series must be completed at least 2 weeks prior to access to campus.
- COVID-19 Booster Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or WHO authorized vaccine – 5 months after last dose in primary series; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 2 months after primary dose.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

- Measles vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Mumps vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Rubella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis vaccinations 1 dose of Tdap and either a history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. See [CDC schedule](#). Tdap given ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since last Tdap.

- Hepatitis B immunization series (3 doses) followed by laboratory evidence of immunity; or Heplisav-B vaccine (2 doses, first dose must be given on or after the student's 18th birthday, and the second dose must be given at least 28 days after the first dose) followed by laboratory evidence of immunity. Laboratory evidence of immunity alone is also acceptable.
- Varicella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday); laboratory evidence of immunity; or physician diagnosis of varicella.
- Annual Tuberculosis skin test or Tuberculosis blood test. If results are positive, a clear chest x-ray (with laboratory report or physician verification of results) or a physician letter verifying the student is symptom free is required each year.
- Annual influenza shot (Must be obtained as soon as the vaccine for the annual flu season becomes available each fall).
- Meningococcal vaccination: 1 dose of MenACWY (formerly MCV4) received on or after the student's 16th birthday required only for students under the age of 22. Meningococcal B vaccine does not meet this requirement.
- COVID-19 Primary series Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech – 2 doses at least 21 days apart; Moderna – 2 doses at least 28 days apart; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 1 dose; WHO authorized vaccine – completion of scheduled series of the vaccine. Series must be completed at least 2 weeks prior to access to campus.
- COVID-19 Booster Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or WHO authorized vaccine – 5 months after last dose in primary series; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 2 months after primary dose.

ALL OTHER PROGRAMS:

- Measles vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Mumps vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Rubella vaccinations (2 immunizations at least 4 weeks apart; first dose must be received on or after the student's 1st birthday) or laboratory evidence of immunity.
- Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis vaccinations 1 dose of Tdap and either a history of DTaP primary series or age appropriate catch-up vaccination. See [CDC schedule](#). Tdap given ≥ 7 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td should be given if it has been ≥ 10 years since last Tdap.
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- COVID-19 Booster Vaccination: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna or WHO authorized vaccine – 5 months after last dose in primary series; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – 2 months after primary dose.
- An annual influenza vaccine is *strongly recommended*.

WAIVERS/EXEMPTIONS

If a student is unable to obtain one or more immunizations due to medical or religious reasons, they may upload the [Student Vaccine Exemption Request Form](#) to CastleBranch. Students who are unable to obtain one or more immunizations for medical reasons must also submit a letter (on official letterhead with a signature) from the student’s health care provider certifying that the provider has personally examined the student and is of the opinion that the student’s health would be endangered by the immunization. Medical and religious exemptions must be renewed annually at the start of each school year.

In addition to the medical and religious exemptions detailed above, students may qualify for an exemption from the meningococcal immunization requirement if the student (or the student’s parent or legal guardian, if the student is a minor) signs a waiver stating that the student has received information about the dangers of meningococcal disease, reviewed the information provided and elected to decline the vaccine. A copy of this waiver is available for download in your CastleBranch account.

Requirements for clinical rotations are set by clinical sites and MCPHS does not have the authority to override these requirements. Medical and religious exemptions may be accepted at the discretion of clinical sites. Failure to obtain all immunizations required to participate in clinicals or other activities with patient contact may negatively impact progression in certain academic programs. Please contact your Clinical Coordinator for your academic program to discuss how waivers/exemptions may affect your clinical rotation requirements.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Certain health care agencies and clinical training and service learning sites may have additional immunization requirements. In order to be eligible for clinical placements or service learning experiences, students must meet all University immunization requirements and any additional site requirements. In cases where the site does not pay for the completion of additional immunization requirements, the student is responsible for paying any associated fees, if it is not covered by their personal health insurance. Without clearance with respect to all University and site immunization requirements, students will not be permitted to begin clinical or service learning placements, and therefore, would be unable to meet program requirements.

Students who change academic programs must become compliant with all immunization requirements of their new academic program. Students must contact their Program Director/Clinical Coordinator for necessary steps to review their immunization compliance with the new academic program. MCPHS works with a confidential health information service company that maintains and processes all student immunization records and monitors compliance with state law immunization requirements. Authorized officials at MCPHS have access to student immunization records to monitor compliance.

June 2022