

Texas Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for College Entry

All entering students at an institution of higher education (college/university) are required to show proof of an initial meningococcal vaccination or a booster dose during the five-year period prior to enrolling. They must get the vaccine at least 10 days before the semester begins.

Proof of Vaccination:

Students may show proof of vaccination against meningococcal disease by providing their college or university with an immunization record that shows they have been vaccinated against meningococcal disease in the last five years. Acceptable proof includes one of the following:

- A form showing the signature or stamp of a physician or his/her designee, or public health personnel that shows the month, day, and year the vaccination dose or booster was administered
- An official immunization record generated from a state or local health authority that shows the month, day, and year the vaccination or booster dose was administered
- An official record received from school officials (includes records from out of state)

may get a copy of their immunization records from their private healthcare provider or local health department, depending on where the vaccination(s) were administered. If the student's immunization records are in [ImmTrac2, the Texas Immunization Registry](#), he or she can request a copy by calling the Texas Immunization Information Line at 1-800-252-9152. Please note that individuals 18-26 years of age must re-consent as an adult in order to stay in the registry.

Students who do not need to show proof of Immunization:

- Students 22 years of age or older by the first day of the start of the semester
- Students submitting an affidavit or a certificate signed by a physician who is duly registered and licensed and in good standing to practice medicine in the United States, stating that, in the physician's opinion, the vaccination required would be injurious to the health and well-being of the student
- Students who submit an affidavit/form signed by the student (or the parent/legal guardian/managing conservator, if applicable) stating the student declines the vaccination for bacterial meningitis for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief. (Exemptions from vaccination)*
- For students obtaining from vaccination, these exemptions do not apply during a disaster or public health emergency, terrorist attack, hostile military or paramilitary action, or extraordinary law enforcement emergency; declared by an appropriate official or authority from the Texas Department of State Health Services, and in effect for the location of the institution the student attends.

***Claiming Exemptions:**

A person claiming exclusion for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief, from a required immunization may only obtain the affidavit form by submitting a request (via online form, mail, fax, or hand-delivery) to the department. The request must include the following information:

- Full name of child or student
- Child's or student's date of birth (month/day/year)
- Complete mailing address, including telephone number
- Number of requested affidavit forms (not to exceed 5).

Affidavit form requests will be processed and mailed within one week from the receipt of the request. If additional information is needed in order to process the affidavit, you will be notified.

Email or telephone requests cannot be processed. Requests for affidavit forms must be submitted to the department through one of the following methods:

Obtaining an Affidavit Online: Affidavits may be requested via the Immunization Unit [Affidavit Request website](#).

Obtaining an Affidavit By Mail: A written request for an affidavit may be sent through the United States Postal Service (or other commercial carriers) to:

Texas Department of State Health Services
Immunization Branch, Mail Code 1946
P.O. Box 149347
Austin, Texas 78714-9347

Obtaining an Affidavit By Fax: Fax written requests for affidavits to: (512) 776-7544.

Obtaining an Affidavit In Person: Requests for an affidavit may be made in-person at:

Texas Department of State Health Services
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, Texas 78756

***NOTE: No requests will be filled at the time of hand-delivery.
All affidavit forms will be mailed to you via U.S. Postal Service.***