Meningitis Information

Required Basic Information

Why is meningitis vaccine proof needed?
The State of Texas passed a law requiring all new students to a state institution under the age of 22 to provide proof of the meningitis vaccine. The vaccine must be administered within the last five years of the first day of classes. The law defines a new student as someone coming to the institution for the first time or someone that has been readmitted to the institution.

Where can proof be submitted?
By Mail:
- Student Health Services
  Box 43095
  Lubbock, TX 79409
By Fax:
- 806-743-2122
By Email:
- studenthealthservices@ttuhsc.edu

If a student does not live in the residence halls, do they still need the vaccine?
YES!

Where can the vaccine be administered?
- Walgreen’s, CVS, Health Department, and some United Supermarkets.
- Student Health

Is an official form needed when submitting proof?
A form was not created by TTU or Student Health Services. Whatever form the student is given by the physician or pharmacy is acceptable. The student’s TTU ID number (R#) must be written on the form.

Exceptions and Extensions

If a student is currently pregnant or breastfeeding, can they receive the vaccine?
No. In order to be granted an extension, the student must provide a letter from a physician stating medical reason for an extension to Enrollment Management (Amy Ellison). With approval from Enrollment Management, SHS will remove the hold for the specified period of time. The hold typically is moved until the student can safely obtain the vaccine.

Is it possible for students to obtain an extension to register for classes?
SHS can only give extensions to students currently attending Red Raider Orientation. Students not attending RRO or students needing another extension need to contact Amy Ellison at 806-742-1452.
What if someone cannot afford the vaccine or does not want to take the vaccine by reason of conscience? Where do they get an exemption form?

Students entering a 4-year college, university, or other institution of higher education who wish to submit an exemption affidavit for meningococcal vaccination must request the official Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) affidavit form. This may be done online or by mail/fax. Once requested, the affidavit form is mailed from DSHS to the student. The affidavit must be completed, notarized, and provided to the designated school official at the institution the student will be attending.

A written request must be submitted for the affidavit via one of the following:
- Secure online request for affidavit:  https://corequest.dshs.texas.gov/
- Fax the written request to:  (512) 776-7544
- Mail the written request to:
  Immunization Branch, Mail Code 1946
  PO Box 149347
  Austin, TX 78714
- Or hand deliver to the Texas Department of State Health Services:
  1100 West 49th Street
  Austin, TX 78756

Affidavit form requests will be processed upon receipt. All affidavit forms will be mailed via U.S. Postal Service, first class mail. Students must allow up to 7 to 10 business days for delivery.

Upon receiving the affidavit, the student must:
1. Check the box beside the vaccine(s) they do not want to receive.
2. Go to a Notary Public and have it notarized.
3. Only sign the form in the presence of a Notary Public.
4. Give the original affidavit to Student Health.

Please do not make any copies of the affidavit form. Photocopies will print with the word “void” throughout the form, making it null and void.

**Distance Education**

**Are distance education students exempt?**

If the student is classified correctly, they are exempt from obtaining the vaccine. The registrars guidelines are for the hold not to be removed but the date be changed to allow them to register for classes. This is done to ensure that if the student does eventually take classes on campus, they must submit proof of a vaccine.