

Messiah University Vaccination Policy

In an effort to keep our campus community safe and healthy, Messiah University adheres to strict pre-matriculation guidelines. Immunizations offer safe and effective protection from vaccine-preventable diseases and outbreaks. The United States is experiencing re-emergence of these diseases, in part due to factors such as un-immunized and under-immunized persons and global travel.

Messiah's absolute pre-matriculation requirements include:

- **2 Measles Mumps Rubella (MMR) vaccines,**
- **a current Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis (Tdap) booster within 5 years of entrance to Messiah (Td not accepted),**
- **2 varicella vaccines or lab work proof (titer) that patient has had the disease, and**
- **2 Meningococcal (ACWY) vaccines (or one within the last 5 years).**

All residential and commuter students must receive all of these vaccinations (some academic programs require additional vaccines). Rare exceptions to this University requirement can be made in the case of a true medical condition that prohibits a student from receiving a vaccine; this form can be acquired from the health center and requires a provider's signature (MD, DO, CRNP, PA only). A religious exemption form from the health center with a theological basis for declining a vaccine and signed by a notary may also be submitted for consideration. **Philosophical exemptions are not accepted.**

A Tuberculosis screening form must also be completed. Based on the results of this questionnaire, some students will be required to have a Tuberculosis test (blood or skin test). Other immunizations are strongly recommended at this time, but not required.

Please refer to the Messiah University online health forms and the Engle Center webpage for all requirements. Some specific majors have more stringent immunization requirements.