

MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

HEALTH AND SAFETY
Section 810

SUBJECT: STUDENT IMMUNIZATIONS

PURPOSE: To comply with laws regarding student immunizations

A. Introduction

Maine law requires most MCCS students to provide prior to enrollment proof of immunization or immunity for certain diseases. The purpose of this policy is to assist the colleges in meeting this requirement.

B. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, "student" means any person born after December 31, 1956, who attends full-time, or who attends less than full-time and is a candidate for a degree, diploma, or certificate. A student who is enrolled in a distance education program offered by a college and who does not physically attend any classes or programs at a college campus, center, or site is exempt from law and this policy.

C. Required Immunizations

Maine law requires all students as defined above to provide proof of immunization or immunity for the following diseases:

1. Diphtheria/Tetanus: One dose of DT, TD, or DTP administered within 10 years of the student's enrollment;
2. Measles: Two doses of measles vaccine administered after the student's first birthday;
3. Rubella: Two doses of rubella vaccine administered after the student's first birthday; and
4. Mumps: Two doses of mumps vaccine administered after the student's first birthday.

D. Evidence of Immunity

To demonstrate the required immunizations, each student shall present a certificate of immunization from the provider who administered the immunization. The proof must specify the patient name, date of birth, immunizing agent and the date it was administered. School health

records are usually acceptable to meet this requirement. To demonstrate immunity against measles, mumps, and/or rubella, a student must present a medical provider's statement demonstrating the student's immunity status.

E. Exemptions from Immunity

A student is exempt from the above requirements if the student, or the parent or guardian if the student is a minor:

1. Provides a written statement from a physician or school health provider that immunization against one or more of the diseases may be medically inadvisable;
2. States in writing a sincere religious belief, which is contrary to the immunization requirement of Maine law; or
3. States in writing a sincere opposition to the immunization for philosophical reasons.

F. Failure to Comply

Any student who does not comply with these requirements or qualify for an applicable exception may be excluded from a college.

G. Records

Each college shall keep records of the immunizations and immunization status of each student. Such records shall be part of the student's permanent records.

REFERENCES: 20-A M.R.S.A. §6359

DATE ADOPTED: June 24, 2009

DATE(S) AMENDED: