



NEW STUDENT HEALTH FORM

You will **not** be allowed to register for classes unless this document is completed, signed, and filed with the Weigel Health Center. Complete sections I and II.

Form may be faxed to (716) 878-6727.

Last name	Maiden name	First name	Middle initial
Street		City	State
Date of birth: _____ / _____ / _____ <small>Month Day Year</small>		Banner ID or Social Security number: _____	Phone: (_____) _____

SECTION I: MENINGITIS INFORMATION RESPONSE FORM

New York State Public Health Law requires all college students to read the information regarding meningococcal meningitis disease (see reverse side of form). All students must either indicate immunization within the past 5 years, or indicate that they have decided not to obtain immunization. No student may attend Buffalo State without complying, according to the law. **ONE BOX MUST BE CHECKED:**

- I have had the meningitis vaccine within the past 5 years. Date received: _____ Vaccine type: _____
- I have read (or have had explained to me) the information regarding meningococcal meningitis disease on the reverse side of this form. I understand the risks of not receiving the vaccine. At this time I have decided that I will not obtain immunization against meningococcal meningitis disease.

SECTION II: IMMUNIZATIONS

New York State Public Health Law and SUNY Buffalo State require all college students to show **proof of immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella**. All dates **must include month, day, and year**. If you were born before January 1, 1957, you are exempt from this requirement, but you must return this form with proof of date of birth. **Complete ONE section: A, B, OR C.**

A MMR (two doses) administered on or after first birthday, and after January 1, 1972.

1. _____

2. _____

B Measles (Rubeola) Immunity

Two dates of measles immunization: 1. _____ 2. _____

Both must have been administered on or after first birthday **and** after January 1, 1968.

OR
Date of positive measles titer: _____ Result: _____

OR
Signature of physician who diagnosed measles: Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mumps Immunity

Date of one mumps immunization: _____ **Must** have been administered on or after first birthday **and** after January 1, 1969.

OR
Date of positive mumps titer: _____ Result: _____

OR
Signature of physician who diagnosed mumps: Signature: _____ Date: _____

Rubella (German Measles) Immunity

Date of one rubella immunization: _____ **Must** have been administered on or after first birthday **and** after January 1, 1969.

OR
Date of positive rubella titer: _____ Result: _____

History of illness is not acceptable.

C Proof of Military Service (please attach copy of DD214 issued within the last 10 years or Military I.D. for Active Military).
Official records are still required.

Signature of student (or parent/guardian if student is a minor) Date

Signature of health-care provider (REQUIRED) Date

Meningococcal: Questions and Answers

Information about the disease and vaccines

What causes meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal disease is caused by the bacterium *Neisseria meningitidis*. This bacterium has at least 13 different subtypes (serogroups). Five of these serogroups, A, B, C, Y, and W-135, cause almost all invasive disease. The relative importance of these five serogroups depends on geographic location and other factors.

How does meningococcal disease spread?

The disease is spread person-to-person through the exchange of respiratory and throat secretions (e.g., by coughing, kissing, or sharing eating utensils). Meningococcal bacteria can't live for more than a few minutes outside the body, so the disease is not spread as easily as the common cold or influenza.

What are the symptoms of meningococcal disease?

The most common symptoms are high fever, chills, lethargy, and a rash. If meningitis is present, the symptoms will also include headache and neck stiffness (which may not be present in infants); seizures may also occur. In overwhelming meningococcal infections, shock, coma, and death can follow within several hours, even with appropriate medical treatment.

Is there a treatment for meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal disease can be treated with antibiotics. It is critical to start treatment early.

What people are at special risk for meningococcal disease?

Studies have shown that college freshmen who live in a dormitory are at an increased risk of meningococcal disease compared with others their age. In addition to certain age groups, people at increased risk include travelers to places where meningococcal disease is common (e.g., certain countries in Africa, and in Saudi Arabia), people with damaged or missing spleens, and people with persistent complement component deficiency (an immune system disorder). Other factors make it more likely an individual will develop meningococcal disease, including having a previous viral infection, living in a crowded household, having an underlying chronic illness, and being exposed to cigarette smoke (either directly or second-hand).

How safe is this vaccine?

All types of meningococcal vaccines are very safe. Polysaccharide (sugar) meningococcal vaccine has been used extensively since 1981, and millions of doses of meningococcal conjugate vaccine have been given since they were first licensed in 2005.

Should college students be vaccinated against meningococcal disease?

College freshmen living in residence halls, are at an increased risk of meningococcal disease relative to other people their age. The meningitis vaccine is recommended for previously unvaccinated first-year college students, age younger than 22 years, who are or will be living in a residence hall. Some colleges and universities require incoming freshmen and others to be vaccinated; some may also require that a meningococcal vaccination have been given since the age of 16 years. Although the risk for meningococcal disease among other college students (such as those 22 years or older, or not living in a residence hall) is similar to that of the general population of the same age, students who wish to decrease their risk of meningococcal disease can be vaccinated.

What kind of vaccines are they?

There are several vaccines on the market. Your medical provider will advise you on the one that is recommended for you.

How many doses of meningococcal vaccine are needed?

The number of doses recommended depends on the age when the vaccine is given and the presence of certain medical conditions or risk factors. All adolescents should be vaccinated at ages 11 through 12 years and need a booster dose at age 16 years. All teens who were vaccinated at ages 13 through 15 years need a booster dose at age 16 through 18 years (at least 8 weeks after the first dose). **First-year college students younger than 22 years who are living in a residential hall should get a booster dose if their previous dose was given before age 16 years.** In addition, vaccinated people who remain at risk, such as people without a spleen, microbiologists who work with meningococcus, or those who travel repeatedly to parts of Africa, should receive a booster dose of meningitis every 5 years.

How do I get more information about meningococcal disease and vaccination?

Contact your physician or your student health services. Additional information is available on the websites of New York State Department of Health, www.health.ny.gov; Center for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov/vaccines; and American College Health Association, www.acha.org.