SB 1107 Bacterial Meningitis Vaccination

The state of Texas passed a new law (SB 1107) effective Spring Semester 2012 that will require all new students under age 30 to have a vaccination against bacterial meningitis. All first-time freshmen, transfer students, and students who have taken a leave of absence from school in either a fall or spring semester must have received this vaccination during the five-year period immediately preceding and at least 10 days prior to the first day of the semester enrolled or re-enrolled. The following evidence must be provided to the Admissions Office as an admissions requirement. This information shall be maintained in the Admissions Office in accordance with Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Regulations and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. Please provide evidence of vaccination by one of the following methods:

I received the bacterial meningitis vaccine on ____/_____/_____/(Date) as evidenced by: (please check)

___ (A) An official immunization record generated by a physician or his/her designee (submit copy).

If this form is used to document the immunization, the signature or the office stamp of the physician or his/her designee must be provided in the space below:

___ (B) An official immunization record generated from a state or local health authority (submit copy).

___ (C) An official record received from school officials, including a record from another state (submit copy).

A student, or a parent or guardian of a student, is not required to submit evidence of receiving the vaccination against bacterial meningitis if, under one of the following circumstances, the student, or a parent or guardian of a student submits one of the following to the institution: (check if applicable)

___ (A) an affidavit or a certificate signed by a physician who is duly registered and licensed to practice medicine in the United States, in which it is stated that, in the physician’s opinion, the vaccination would be injurious to the health and well-being of the student; OR

___ (B) an affidavit signed by the student stating that the student declines the vaccination for bacterial meningitis for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief. **A conscientious exemption form from the Texas Department of State Health Services found at [https://webds.dshs.state.tx.us/immco/affidavit.shtml](https://webds.dshs.state.tx.us/immco/affidavit.shtml) must be used.**

The exemption noted in Section 21.614 (B) does 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 is in effect for the location of the institution the student attends.

Please note: If a student has previously taken the vaccine, he/she must still follow A, B, or C above.

The bacterial meningitis vaccine lasts for up to 5 years.