



Vaccination Policies

All entering students at Messenger College are required to show proof of vaccination and/or immunizations during the five- year period prior to enrolling. Students attending in the TX Residential Program must get the Meningococcal vaccination at least 10 days before the semester begins and the Tuberculin (TB) Skin Test within the last year. A licensed physician must sign this form along with a copy of your immunization history. This Health Form is for use by the Messenger College Administration. The contents of this record are kept confidential and will not be released without your written consent. Please complete the form in its entirety.

Texas Legislation has regulations (with limited exceptions) that affect all students planning to take classes on the MC Texas campus. Please read the following very carefully:

Meningitis Vaccination (state requirement):

- All new or transfer MC students wishing to take classes on the MC campus must have received the **Meningitis vaccine** within the last 5 years.
- MC students who do not attend during a fall or spring semester but wish to return to classes must also receive the Meningitis vaccine.
- Regardless of program (on campus or distance education, undergraduate or graduate), students wishing to take on campus classes must receive the Meningitis vaccine.
- You are strongly encouraged to receive the vaccine as soon as possible at your local clinic or doctor's office. You must receive the vaccine **ten (10) days prior** to beginning classes and/or moving into MC housing. **Students 22 years of age or older, or students only taking online classes (no on campus classes) are NOT required to receive the Meningitis vaccine.**

Tuberculosis (TB) Skin Test (MC requirement):

- All new or transfer MC students wishing to take classes on the MC campus must receive a TB skin test within one year of beginning classes.
- MC students who do not attend during a fall or spring semester but wish to return to classes must also receive a TB skin test within the last year.
- Regardless of program (on campus or distance education, undergraduate or graduate), students wishing to take on campus classes must receive the TB skin test.
- You are strongly encouraged to take the test as soon as possible at your local clinic or doctor's office. You must receive the test **ten (10) days prior** to beginning classes and/or moving into MC housing.
- **Students only taking online classes (no on campus classes) are NOT required to receive the TB skin test.**

Other vaccinations:

In addition to the Meningitis and TB skin test, all students are required to submit proof of the following:

1. MMR (measles, mumps and rubella)
2. Polio
3. Tetanus
4. Diphtheria

The influenza vaccine is also strongly recommended for all students.



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Student should submit official documents from a doctor's office or medical clinic indicating they have received the vaccine(s) and have had the TB test administered and read. Documents should be submitted as soon as possible and before arrival on campus.

Students will not be allowed to move into College housing or begin classes until these requirements are met.

By state law, students are able to receive an exemption from vaccinations. Exemptions may be granted by submitting:

Signed certificate from a physician indicating that in the physician's opinion, the vaccination required would be injurious to the health and well-being of the student,

or

Affidavit signed by the student and notarized stating that the student declines the vaccination for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief.

A conscientious exemption form from the Texas Department of State Health Services must be used.
<http://webds.dshs.state.tx.us/immco/affidavit.shtm>