

Appendix 9

Fact Sheet: Vaccination requirements for students

In accordance with Queensland Health policy, students on placement in certain areas are required to:

- provide documentary evidence of vaccination or non-susceptibility to measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, and hepatitis B
- have received one dose of pertussis containing vaccine within the last 10 years.

Who does the policy apply to?

The requirements for measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, pertussis and hepatitis B apply to employees, Contractors, students and volunteers to be engaged in roles where there is:

- face-to-face or direct physical contact with patients, or
- the normal work location is in a clinical area, or
- there will be frequent attendance in clinical areas; and/or
- possible contact with blood, body substances and/or equipment contaminated with these.

What is required?

Prior to placement, students will need to provide:

1. documentary evidence of vaccination for pertussis within the last 10 years, and
2. documentary evidence they are either vaccinated or not susceptible to measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, and hepatitis B.

It is important to note that the only acceptable evidence for pertussis is evidence of vaccination within the last 10 years.

It will also be a condition of ongoing placement to supply documentary evidence of follow up vaccinations and boosters, as required, for the specified vaccine preventable diseases.

Accelerated schedules of hepatitis B vaccination are not routinely recommended and may require a fourth dose to complete.

Are you impacted?

Students undertaking placement with Queensland Health should check with their education provider about any requirements they may need to meet prior to the commencement of their placement.

Evidence

Students should check with their education provider about the process for providing documentary evidence of vaccination or non-susceptibility to these diseases. This evidence

must be provided to the education provider. Education providers may develop their own processes and procedures to collect the required documentary evidence.

Acceptable evidence of vaccination, or confirmation that a person is not susceptible to the vaccine preventable diseases includes:

- documentary evidence of vaccination that may include a vaccine record book, a vaccine record card, an immunisation history statement from your regular healthcare provider or from the Australian Immunisation Register.
- where vaccination has occurred, but no documentary evidence is available, a doctor or immunisation provider can review vaccination records or perform serology testing, where appropriate, to provide documentary evidence of vaccinations (this would be at the student's cost). Serology testing is not applicable for pertussis.
- if documentary evidence cannot be provided and a vaccination is required, a doctor or immunisation provider can administer vaccinations.

For further information about acceptable forms of evidence, please see (Appendix 3)

Vaccine preventable diseases evidence form – worker and *Vaccine preventable diseases evidence form – doctor* are available at (Appendix 5) and (Appendix 6) of this guideline.

Resources

To view relevant policies and further information on the requirement please refer to:

Health Service Directive Vaccine Preventable Disease Screening for Contractors, Students and Volunteers

<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/directives/docs/hsd/qh-hsd-047.pdf>

<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/employment/work-for-us/dept-of-health/pre-employment/vaccinations>

For further reading on vaccination and immunisation please refer to:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/immunisation/benefits/index.html>

<https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/immunisation>