

Appendix 11

Fact Sheet: for education providers and student placement supervisors

Background

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.

Vaccine preventable disease requirements

The requirements for measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, pertussis and hepatitis B apply to students 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.

Evidence

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

- documentary evidence of vaccination that may include a vaccine record book, a vaccine record card, an immunisation history statement from their 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 acceptable evidence for pertussis.
- if documentary evidence cannot be provided and a vaccination is required, a doctor or immunisation provider can administer vaccinations.

The requirements are outlined in Queensland Health's [Health Service Directive Vaccine Preventable Diseases Screening for Contractors Students and Volunteers](#) and its associated [protocol](#). Adherence to the Health Service Directives is a condition of the student deed held with Queensland Health.

Impact on Student placements

Before a student commences a placement with Queensland Health, they will be required to provide:

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

The student should check with their education provider about how they should provide the required evidence to them.

If a student requires follow up vaccinations for any of the vaccine preventable diseases while on placement (e.g. pertussis vaccination every 10 years), they will be required to obtain these vaccinations as a condition of their ongoing placement. They must provide documentary evidence to the education provider that they have met this requirement.

Education providers

Education providers include universities, TAFEs and other registered training organisations (RTOs).

An education provider's student placement supervisor should, as soon as practicable, distribute the information sheet *Vaccination requirements for student placements in Queensland Health* to existing and prospective students who may undertake a placement with Queensland Health. The information sheet will assist Students to meet the policy requirements.

Education providers are required to collect, verify and retain the necessary documentary evidence to confirm a student complies with the Queensland Health policy. This documentary evidence must be appropriately verified by the education provider. Students unable or unwilling to provide acceptable documentary evidence will not be allowed to proceed with a placement until the vaccine preventable disease requirements are met.

Students will not be able to commence their placement in a role to which vaccine preventable disease requirements apply unless they meet the requirements specified below.

Vaccination	Minimum requirement pre commencement of placement	Continuing placement
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)	Minimum one dose MMR containing vaccine	Second dose to be administered within 3 months of commencement and at least 4 weeks after the first dose.
Varicella (chicken pox)	Minimum one dose	Second dose (if first dose administered after 14 years of age) to be administered within 3 months of commencement and at least 4 weeks after the first dose.
OR		
Zoster (shingles)	One dose only (age appropriate) OR if Shingrix first dose	Not applicable OR if Shingrix second dose in 2 to 6 months (or sooner if indicated by medical advice)

Hepatitis B	Minimum 2 doses	Third dose to be administered within 6 months of commencement and at least 3 months after dose 2. Post course serology 4–8 weeks after third dose may be recommended.
Pertussis (whooping cough)	One dose	One dose every 10 years

Education providers should develop their own processes and procedures to collect the required documentary evidence. The following forms may assist the collection of the necessary documentary evidence:

[Vaccine preventable diseases evidence form – worker](#) (where a student already holds records of their vaccinations)

[Vaccine preventable diseases evidence certification form – health care professional](#) (where a student does not have reliable records of their vaccination history, this form can be taken to the student’s treating medical practitioner, registered nurse or occupational health provider)

The Department of Health and student placement workers within the Hospital and Health Services may seek copies of the student’s documentary evidence to fulfil compliance reporting requirements.

Who do these requirements apply to?

Most student placements will meet the criteria listed in Appendix 1: Short risk categorisation of workers and Appendix 2: Risk categorisation of roles of the [Vaccination of healthcare workers](#) guideline.

More Information

To view relevant policies please refer to:

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

<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/policies-standards/health-service-directives/vaccine-preventable-disease-screening>

Human Resources Policy B1 Recruitment and selection

https://www.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0034/635893/qh-pol-212.pdf

Queensland Health *Mandatory vaccinations* webpage with additional resources

<https://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/hr/staff-vaccinations/mandatory>