

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Policy No. AA-4

MEASLES AND RUBELLA IMMUNIZATION POLICY

General.

- 1.1. Scope. These rules promulgate policy and procedures regarding the requirement for measles and rubella immunization of students enrolled in colleges and universities of the State System of Higher Education.
- 1.2. Statutory References:
- 1.3. Passage Date: June 27, 2019
- 1.4. Effective Date: August 1, 2019
- 1.5. Background: Amended to clarify and update practices. Replaces Board of Trustees Series No. 39 which was transferred by the Higher Education Policy Commission to the institutional boards of governors. This policy was previously numbered as Policy No. 13 and approved on Jan 22, 2003

2. Background.

- 2.1. In the interest of student health, the Marshall University Board of Governors establishes the following immunization policy with regard to measles and rubella.

3. Purpose.

- 3.1. The primary purpose of a mandatory measles and rubella immunization requirement for college and university students is to prevent the introduction and spread of these vaccine preventable diseases among students at Marshall University. Accordingly, these regulations require proof of immunity as a requirement for enrollment at Marshall University. The Admissions Officer shall administer the requirement as an aspect of the enrollment and registration process.

4. Immunization Requirement.

4.1. All students of Marshall University who were born after January 1, 1957, except those exempted by this policy statement, shall be required to provide proof of compliance with this immunization policy. To facilitate the implementation of this policy, the student shall be requested to provide proof of immunity on or before the date of enrollment. The student must comply with this request prior to registering for the following semester. See Section 8 -Enforcement.

4.2. In lieu of an immunization record signed by a physician, this requirement is satisfied if a college or university receives a signed attestation of vaccination.

4.3. Immunity to measles and rubella is defined as follows:

4.3.1. Measles.

4.3.1.1. The person was born before January 1, 1957; therefore, the person is considered exempt; or

4.3.1.2. Proof or attestation that the measles vaccine was administered to the person after 1967 and was given after one year of age; or

4.3.1.3. The person presents a report of immune titer or a positive antibody test proving immunity.

4.3.1.4. The person presents a history of having had the disease signed by a physician.

4.3.2. Rubella.

4.3.2.1. Proof or attestation that the rubella vaccine was given after one year of age; or

4.3.2.2. The person presents a report of immune titer or a positive antibody test.

4.3.2.3. History of disease is not acceptable.

5. Applicability.

5.1. This immunization requirement applies to all students who are enrolling in face to face courses for the first time at Marshall University. It also applies to all newly enrolled online students who will be or are residing in college residence halls.

5.2. This immunization requirement also applies to undergraduate students who transfer in from out-of-state, regardless of undergraduate grade level.

5.3. This proof of immunity shall be required beginning with the spring semester of the 1987-88 school year commencing on or about January 1, 1988.

6. Exemptions.

- 6.1. The student may be exempted from proof or attestation of immunity or from the requirement to receive measles or rubella vaccine for two reasons: medical, , and student enrollment classification (online only and not living in residence halls).
- 6.2. Medical exemption. Students presenting a statement from a licensed physician which certifies that the immunization is or may be detrimental to a person's health shall be exempt.
- 6.3. Student classification. Online students (those not enrolled in any course with a face to face component) not residing in college or university residence halls are exempt.

7. Documentation.

- 7.1. The acceptable proof of compliance would be a document which has been filled out and signed by a licensed physician or attestation of student or parent/guardian (if student is under 18 years of age). The document should include the month, day, and year the vaccine was administered.
- 7.2. Acceptable proof may also be provided by the West Virginia high school attended. If Marshall University receives an official copy of a student's health record with report of immunization transmitted to the college from a high school located in West Virginia, this requirement is satisfied.

8. Enforcement.

- 8.1. The student shall be required to attest for or present proof of immunity to the Admissions Officer on or before the date of enrollment.
- 8.2. If a certificate of immunization is not received on or before the date of enrollment, Marshall University shall present a notice of deficiency to the student. The student must have the required proof of immunity on or before the date of enrollment for the next semester or the student shall not be permitted to register for classes until the required immunization, proof of immunity, or documentation of approved exemption has been provided.

9. Obtaining the Report of Immunity.

- 9.1. The student shall be informed of this requirement by the Admissions Officer of Marshall University as an aspect of the enrollment process.
- 9.2. The student and the institution should make reasonable efforts to obtain proof of immunity from:
 - 9.2.1. The family physician or from appropriate records signed by a physician or other community health provider.
 - 9.2.2. The West Virginia high school attended. The health record with report of immunization from any high school in West Virginia shall be accepted as proof of

immunization.

- 9.3. Marshall University should advise the student to request that the student's West Virginia high school health record be transmitted to the institution of higher education at the time that the high school transmits the final official transcript of grades to Marshall. Marshall should also communicate with West Virginia high schools for this health record as it does to obtain official transcripts of grades.

10. Obtaining and Administering Immunizations.

- 10.1. Students who are unable to provide proof of immunity may obtain the required immunization free of charge.
- 10.2. The West Virginia Department of Health and county health agencies in cooperation with Marshall University will provide the immunization free of charge.
 - 10.2.1. Students may obtain the required immunization free of charge at any county health agency which administers immunizations.
 - 10.2.2. The State Health Department will also provide vaccines to college student health centers free of charge upon request of the institution.
 - 10.2.3. Only those student health centers with a physician in attendance may administer these vaccines. If vaccines are to be administered, the college student health center must assure that the student is advised of appropriate medical contraindications to the immunizations. The student health physician should provide the medical exemption statement when appropriate.

11. Records and Reports.

- 11.1. The University shall maintain on file immunization records for all persons not exempt from this requirement for immunity to measles and rubella. These records shall be open to examination by the State Department of Health during normal business hours.
- 11.2. When a person transfers to another college or university within the state system of higher education, the University shall, upon appropriate request, send a copy of the person's immunization record at no cost to the college or university to which the person has transferred.
- 11.3. The university shall file an immunization report with the Marshall University Board of Governors by November 15 of each year for the fall semester and by March 15 of each year for the spring semester. This report will provide a statistical summary of the immunization status of new college enrollees.
- 11.4. The West Virginia Department of Health has agreed upon request to provide college student health centers with official health and immunization records for the purpose of recording immunizations which they might administer.

