

Bacterial Meningitis Vaccination Requirement

Effective January 1, 2012, Senate Bill 1107 and subsequent Senate Bill 62 requires all students entering an institution of higher education (public and private) to either receive a vaccination against bacterial meningitis or meet certain criteria for declining such a vaccination 10 days before the first day of classes. Therefore, if you are under the age of 22 and are 1) a returning student, who did NOT attend classes at LSC-O the preceding long semester, 2) an entering freshman, OR 3) a transfer student, you must submit evidence of vaccination against bacterial meningitis. Students that are taking online only courses DO NOT need to submit evidence of vaccination against bacterial meningitis. However, must complete a signed notarized waiver that may be obtained from the Admission & Records Office and may only enroll in on-line classes. To learn important facts about Bacterial Meningitis

<http://www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/about/index.html>

Students planning to attend Lamar State College-Orange need to submit proof of vaccination or exemption before registering for classes. Students who do not qualify for an exemption must be immunized at least 10 days prior to the first class day. Vaccinations are valid for five years.

Evidence of Vaccination must verify that the vaccination was received at least 10 days prior to attending classes.

- A document bearing the signature or stamp of a physician, his or her designee, or public health official that states the name of the vaccination, the name and address of the medical facility, and the day, month and year that the vaccination was administered.
- An official immunization record generated by a state or local health authority. This record must state the name of the vaccination, the name and address of the medical facility, and the day, month and year that the vaccination was administered.
- An official school record that indicates a current bacterial meningitis vaccination. This record must state the name of the vaccination, the name and address of the medical facility, and the day, month and year that the vaccination was administered.

Evidence to Decline Vaccination must be submitted in the following format:

- To claim an exclusion for medical reasons, the student must present a statement signed by a physician (M.D. or D.O.), duly registered and licensed to practice medicine in the United States who has examined the student, in which it is stated that, in the physician's opinion, the vaccine required is medically contraindicated or poses a significant risk to the health and well-being of the student. Unless it is written in the statement that a lifelong condition exists, the exemption statement is valid for only one year from the date signed by the physician.
- 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 must be used and can be downloaded here - <https://webds.dshs.state.tx.us/immco/>.

Important Considerations

- The bacterial meningitis vaccination must be administered by a Health Practitioner authorized by law to administer an immunization.
- Vaccinations older than 5 years will require a booster.

How to Submit Evidence of Vaccination or an Affidavit to Decline: LSC-O has chosen the services of Magnus Health to collect, review, and securely store all student documents pertaining to the meningitis vaccine. Magnus Health's SMR (Student Medical Record) is a web-based solution that will allow us to manage the vast number of vaccination records that we have to collect to comply with the new state law. All students that fall under this requirement must register through Magnus Health's SMR, ensuring that the course registration process is not delayed. Students will not be able to register for class until this requirement has been completed.

- After applying for admission to LSC-O, students will receive an email within 2 days from Magnus Health to the personal email address provided. The email will contain their username and a temporary password. There is a \$10 account fee.
- Students will be able to upload their vaccination documentation or they will download forms to be completed and uploaded, mailed or fax to Magnus Health.

Lamar State College-Orange encourages students to obtain the vaccine at their primary care physician's office. If you have insurance, most vaccines will require only a co-pay. Local pharmacies also administer the vaccine. Texas Department of State Health Services will NOT administer the shot to anyone over the age of 18.