Immunization Frequently Asked Questions for Graduate Students

Why is this required?
Massachusetts public health regulations and college policy require that any full-time student (enrolled in 9 or more credits in a semester), OR a full or part-time international student must provide proof of immunization compliance before the start of classes. In the event of a communicable disease outbreak, students who are not adequately immunized or are without laboratory evidence of immunity must be excluded from school. This policy includes all students with medical or religious exemptions.

What will happen if I don't submit my immunizations?
Failure to comply with Massachusetts Immunization Requirements will result in a hold on your Assumption course registration.

What do I have to do?
There are three ways to meet the requirement; all start with the Assumption College Graduate Studies Immunization Record:

1. Complete the form, in English, and have it signed by your health care provider.
2. Review the immunization requirements on the Graduate Studies Immunization Record and attach a copy of your immunization record (including dates), provided by your health care provider’s office, that is either signed or on office letterhead.
3. If you’ve been a full-time student at another school or enlisted in the military, attach a copy of your immunization record.

As an Online Student, do I need to submit Immunization records?
Yes. Because online students live on campus for a week per academic year, they must submit immunization records. In the event of a communicable disease outbreak, the College must be able to contact those who are at risk.

Who must be tested for tuberculosis?
Some students are more likely to be exposed to or have active Tuberculosis (TB). This is determined by the answers you give to the questions in the TB screening form. If you have a higher risk (indicated by your answer to questions on the form) you need to be tested.

What if I don't have all my immunizations?
If you cannot locate your records, a blood titer test can show your immunity to Measles, Mumps, or Rubella, the Hepatitis B series, and Varicella. Contact your health care provider for further information about blood titer tests. You will need to provide our office with a copy of the lab reports, if they are positive. If you cannot locate a record of your current Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis (Tdap) or Meningitis vaccination you will need to receive a new inoculation.

Is anyone exempt?
Students may seek exemption for medical or religious reasons. Medical exemption requests must be accompanied by documentation from a health care provider stating that the immunization is medically contraindicated. Religious exemption requests must be accompanied by a signed statement that immunizations are contrary to the student’s sincere religious beliefs. Copies of paperwork documenting religious affiliation and history from previous schools are also acceptable. Students may be exempt from the meningitis vaccination requirement, depending on whether they live on or off-campus. If the meningitis vaccination is waived, the waiver form must be completed and attached to the Immunization Record.

I've been a student here before. Do I have to fill out the form again?
No. Please contact Assumption College Student Health Services at 508-767-7329 for a copy of your immunization record. However, if your Tdap or Meningitis immunization has expired, another must be obtained.

What's the deadline?
The immunization form should be submitted before your first semester on campus. If you haven’t turned it in by the end of the Add/Drop period, a hold will be placed on your record, preventing you from registering for classes.

I faxed my immunization records to Assumption. How do I know if they have been received?
Always be sure to follow up with the Medical Secretary for Graduate Studies to be certain that your records were received. Please call 508-767-7507.

Who will get to see my Immunization Record?
The only staff who will have access to your immunization records are those who need to handle or see it in the context of a public health concern on campus.