

Health Screening and Immunization Policy

Responsible Party	Policy Committee
Minimum Review Frequency	Annual
Associated Forms	None
ARC-PA Associated Standards	A3.09a
Initial Effective Date	10/9/2025
Last Review Date	August 2026
Next Review Date	August 2027

Rationale:

The Pfeiffer University Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (MS-PAS) program is committed to adhere to state and federal guidelines to protect all personnel, from communicable disease infection and exposure. This policy outlines the applicable health matriculation and on-going requirements for students.

Policy:

The Pfeiffer University MS-PAS program requires that all students seeking enrollment meet the requirements identified by North Carolina State immunization laws and the Center for Disease Control immunization standards for health care professionals.

Students must submit documentation of the following prior to matriculation:

Required	
Tuberculosis (TB) baseline screening	One of the following is required: • QuantiFERON, -TB Gold or T-SPOT TB blood test (IGRA tests; lab reports required-the most recent test will be dated no earlier than 6 months prior to the matriculation date) OR • Two consecutive annual tests (the most recent test will be dated no earlier than 6 months prior to matriculation date) OR • Two step TB skin test administered (no less than 1 week apart but within 12 months of each other; the last tuberculin skin test must be within 6 months of the matriculation date) Note: Individuals with a history of a POSITIVE TB SKIN test or IGRA blood test must submit the following: • Verification of a chest x-ray within 12 months of the start date stating no active TB AND • Proof of past positive testing (plus any treatment if implemented) AND • A current NEGATIVE/asymptomatic screening questionnaire

Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)	One of the following is required: 2 doses of live, attenuated vaccine administered at least 28 days apart: the first dose on or after age 12 months OR The following combination: - Measles: two doses of live, attenuated vaccine at least 28 days apart. The first dose must be on or after the first birthday AND - Mumps: two doses of live, attenuated vaccine at least 28 days apart. The first dose must be on or after the first birthday AND - Rubella: one dose of live, attenuated vaccine. The first dose must be on or after the first birthday OR An individual has been documented by serological activity (positive antibody titer) to be immune to measles, mumps and rubella
Tetanus/diphtheria toxoid (Td/Tdap)	3 doses of a tetanus/diphtheria (Td) containing vaccine, at least one of which must be tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap). Most recent booster must be within the past 10 years of the matriculation date.
Meningococcal conjugate (MenACWY)	2 doses; Students who received their first dose of MenACWY on or after their 16th birthday are not required to receive a booster dose. An individual born before January 1, 2003 is not required to be vaccinated against meningococcal disease.
Hepatitis B	A full complete series of an approved hepatitis B series is required. The following are approved series: 2-dose series only applies when 2 doses of Heplisav-B are administered at least 4 weeks apart OR 3-dose series Engerix-B, PreHevbrio*, or Recombivax HB at 0, 1, 6 months (minimum intervals: dose 1 to dose 2 = 4 weeks; dose 2 to dose 3 = 8 weeks; dose 1 to dose 3 = 16 weeks) OR 3-dose series HepA-HepB (Twinrix) at 0, 1, 6 months (minimum intervals: dose 1 to dose 2 = 4 weeks; dose 2 to dose 3 = 5 months) OR 4-dose series HepA-HepB (Twinrix) accelerated schedule of 3 doses at 0, 7, and 21-30 days, followed by a booster dose at 12 months
Varicella	One of the following is required: 2 doses administered at least 28 days apart. The first dose administered on or after the first birthday OR Documented by serological activity (positive antibody titer) to be immune OR Documentation from a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant verifying history of varicella disease. The documentation must include the name of the individual with a history of varicella disease, the approximate date or age of infection, and a healthcare provider signature OR If you were born before April 1, 2001, you are not required to receive varicella vaccine. Note: The requirement for the second dose of varicella vaccine does not apply to individuals who entered Kindergarten or first grade for the first time before July 1, 2015.

Recommended	
Inactivated Polio Virus (IPV)	Adults known or suspected to be unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated: administer remaining doses (1, 2, or 3 IPV doses) to complete a 3-dose primary series.* Unless there are specific reasons to believe they were not vaccinated, most adults who were born and raised in the United States can assume they were vaccinated against polio as children. *Note: Complete primary series consists of at least 3 doses of IPV or trivalent oral poliovirus vaccine (tOPV) in any combination.
COVID 19 (seasonally)	Recommended based on shared clinical decision making
Ongoing Requirements	
Tetanus	Required at 10-year intervals
Influenza (seasonally)	Required annually; influenza season is generally noted as October 1 – March 31
Tuberculosis (TB) testing	Required annually for students in clinical settings: QuantiFERON Gold, IGRA, or T-spot blood test OR If history of positive results, submit a completed TB questionnaire https://www.wakeahec.org/pdf/CCEP/TB_Attestation_11_2022_FILLABLE.pdf Note: A <u>NEW</u> positive result will require a clear chest x-ray stating no active TB Note: Additional testing or information may be required for health care facility credentialing for a history of positive results

Additional Clinical Year Requirements	
Titers	Some clinical sites may require proof of immunity through titers, even when immunization records are available. If titer results do not demonstrate adequate immunity to a specific disease, additional or repeat immunizations will be required to meet clinical site requirements.
Drug screen with chain of custody	Students must complete a baseline drug screen with chain of custody. This may need to be repeated during the clinical year based on clinical site requirements.
Background check (while not a health or immunization requirement, it is required for clinical rotations)	Students must complete a baseline background check. This may need to be repeated during the clinical year based on clinical site requirements.
Ongoing requirements as above	See ongoing requirements above

Students must also complete a baseline drug screening (with chain of custody), a health assessment which includes a medical history and physical exam, and a health attestation form.

During the clinical year the student must also meet the health requirements for the facilities in which they are rotating. Some clinical sites will require titers despite immunization.

Financial Responsibility:

Students are responsible for all costs to meet matriculation and continuing/renewal requirements.

Compliance: Students who fail to comply with and submit documentation may be dismissal from the program.

Review

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Policy Committee.

References:

CDC: Adult immunization schedule by medical condition and other indication (Addendum updated August 7, 2025), accessed September 16th, 2026 <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/adult-medical-condition.html>

NCDHHS: Immunization requirements for colleges and universities, updated November 27th, 2025, accessed September 16th, 2026 [Immunization Requirements for Colleges and Universities | Division of Public Health](#)

Section .0400 Immunization: [10a ncac 41a .0401.pdf](#)