



## **Student Immunization Compliance Policy**

### I. **Policy Statement**

Because vaccination provides the best protection against many vaccine-preventable disease, all universities in Massachusetts are required by Massachusetts Law to ensure that students provide proof of immunization as a condition of enrollment and WPI may choose to impose additional immunization requirements on students.

### II. **Scope**

The policy applies to all WPI student, except where otherwise stated herein.

### III. **Policy**

#### a. **Immunizations Required by Massachusetts Law**

Massachusetts immunization requirements are created under the authority of 105 CMR 220.000 Immunization of Students Before Admission to School.

These requirements apply to all full time undergraduate and graduate students; all full time and part time undergraduate and graduate students in a health science program who may be in contact with patients; all full time and part time undergraduate and graduate students attending WPI on a student or other visa (including students attending or visiting classes or programs as part of an academic visiting or exchange program).

Students must provide proof of compliance with Massachusetts' immunization requirements (or an approved exemption) before the start of classes on the forms required by Student Health Services or other official immunization form provided by a healthcare facility. Failure to submit proof of immunizations will result in an academic hold, and notification to the Dean.

#### b. **Additional Immunizations Required by WPI**

WPI reserves the right to set forth additional immunization requirements as necessary due to emerging public health concerns. Such additional requirements, affected students, proof of compliance, and required deadlines for students will be announced on a case-by-case basis.

#### c. **Exemptions from Immunization Requirements**

In accordance with Massachusetts Law, WPI provides a process for students to submit a request for a medical or religious exemption for all required vaccinations. Students must complete a Vaccine Exemption Form and specify whether they are asking for a medical or religious exemption. If a student requests a medical exemption, they must upload a Medical Provider Exemption Letter from their healthcare provider in addition to the Vaccine Exemption Form.

Exemption forms expire annually in July prior to the start of the new academic year.

Students with an approved medical and/or religious exemption to immunizations required by Massachusetts Law or by WPI may be subject to testing, isolation, or quarantine, if one or more cases of a vaccine-preventable disease or any other communicable disease are present on campus or in WPI's geographic area.

Student also understands and agrees that in the event of an outbreak of a communicable disease, they will (at their own expense) either leave campus or receive an immunization for the communicable disease and will follow WPI's policies and procedures as well as the recommendations of the local board of public health related to the communicable disease.

IV. **Questions**

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact Student Health Services (SHS) at 508-831-5520 or [SHS@wpi.edu](mailto:SHS@wpi.edu).

**Policy Sponsor:** Student Health Services (SHS)

**Responsible Department:** SHS

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