GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY POLICIES

STUDENT POLICY 38

IMMUNIZATIONS

38.1. General

1.1. Scope. This policy promulgates policy and procedures regarding the required immunization of students enrolled at Glenville State University.

1.2. Authority: W.Va. Code 18B-1-6

1.3. Effective Date: - April 19, 2006

1.4. Repeal of Former Rule – Revises and replaces Title 131, Series 39 of the Board of Directors of the State University System which was transferred by the Higher Education Policy Commission to the institutional boards of governors. This policy supersedes any or all previous GSU policies in reference to immunizations.

38.2. Background

2.1. Vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) have declined dramatically during the past 20 years as a cause of morbidity and mortality in the United States. While these declines have been dramatic, significant morbidity and some mortality from these VPDs persist. University-aged students remain susceptible to measles and rubella and these diseases continue to be associated with outbreaks on University campuses. During the recent past, there have been numerous outbreaks on University campuses in the United States and some deaths have occurred at an out-of-state University campus. In view of these circumstances, the West Virginia State Director of Health requests that proof of valid measles and rubella immunization be an enrollment requirement for students enrolling in West Virginia state colleges and universities. In the interest of student health, the Glenville State University Board of Governors establishes the following immunization policy.

38.3. Purpose

3.1. The primary purpose of a mandatory immunization requirement for Glenville State University students is to prevent the introduction and spread of these vaccine preventable diseases among students at GSU. Accordingly, these regulations require proof of immunity as a requirement for enrollment at Glenville State. The Admissions Office shall administer the requirement as an aspect of the enrollment and registration process.

38.4. Immunization Requirement

4.1. All students of Glenville State University who were born after January 1, 1957, except those exempted by this policy statement, shall be required to provide proof of immunity to measles and rubella. To facilitate the implementation of this policy, the student shall be requested to provide

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proof of immunity on or before the date of enrollment. The student shall have proof of immunity by the following semester or will not be permitted to enroll in classes.
4.2. In lieu of an immunization record signed by a physician, this requirement is satisfied if Glenville State University receives an official copy of the permanent health record with report of immunization transmitted to it from a high school located in West Virginia.

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. 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. 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.

38.5. Applicability

5.1. This immunization requirement applies to all undergraduate students who are classified as full-time students. It also applies to all part-time students (those enrolled in fewer than 12 semester hours of coursework) who will be or are residing in University residence halls.

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

38.6. Exemptions

6.1. The student may be eligible to be exempted from proof of immunity or from the requirement to receive measles or rubella vaccine.

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 may be exempt.

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6.3. Religious exemption. If the bona fide religious beliefs of the student are contrary to these immunization requirements, the student may be exempt. Upon submission of a written, signed and notarized statement of the bona fide religious beliefs and opposition to the immunization requirements, the person may attend University without proof of immunity.

38.7. Documentation

7.1. The acceptable proof of compliance would be a document which has been filled out and signed by a licensed physician. 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 Glenville State University receives an official copy of a student's health record with report of immunization transmitted to GSU from a high school located in West Virginia, this requirement is satisfied.

7.3. Each student will be asked to complete and sign a form authorizing the Admissions Office to forward a copy of the student's immunization record to the Campus Health Center for inclusion in the student's campus medical file.

38.8 Enforcement

8.1. The student shall be required to present proof of immunity on or before the date of enrollment to the Admissions Office.

8.2. If a certificate of immunization is not received on or before the date of enrollment, the 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 attend the school until the required immunization, proof of immunity, or documentation of approved exemption has been provided.

38.9. Obtaining the Report of Immunity

9.1. The student shall be informed of this requirement by an Admissions Counselor of Glenville State University as an aspect of the enrollment process.

9.2. The student and the University should make reasonable effort 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. Glenville State University should advise the student to request that the student's West Virginia high school health record be transmitted at the time that the high school transmits the

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final official transcript of grades to the University. GSU should also communicate with West Virginia high schools for this health record as it does to obtain official transcripts of grades.

38.10. 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 state colleges and universities may 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 may also provide vaccine to the Campus Health Center free of charge upon request of the Director of Campus Health Services.

10.2.3. The Campus Health Center may administer these vaccines only when a physician is in attendance. If vaccines are to be administered, the Campus Health Center must ensure that the student is advised of appropriate medical contraindications to the immunizations. The Campus Health Center attending physician should provide the medical exemption statement when appropriate.

38.11. Records and Reports

11.1. The University shall maintain on file immunization records for all persons not exempted 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 University 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 University or university to which the person has transferred.

11.3. The University shall comply with any immunization reporting requests from the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission.

11.4. The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources may provide campus student health centers with official health and immunization records for the purpose of recording immunizations which they might administer.

Approvals:

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President

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Chair of the Board

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