	Howard University College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences Department of Physician Assistant	<i>Policy Number</i>	PHAS - 010
		<i>Effective Date</i>	08/01/2022
		<i>Revision Date</i>	10/26/2022
Howard University College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences	Student Health Requirements and Immunization Policy (A3.07)		

Table of Contents	Page Number
I. PURPOSE	1
II. POLICY	1
III. DEFINITIONS	1
IV. PROCEDURES	1-2
V. APPROVAL	3

I. PURPOSE

To provide physician assistant students the Howard University healthcare professional student health requirements and Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommended immunizations for health professional students.

II. POLICY


It is the practice and procedure of the Howard University Physician Assistant (PA) Department to require matriculating Howard University Physician Assistant students to meet the institution health requirements and CDC recommended immunizations to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all students, faculty, and staff. Physician Assistant students may encounter blood or bodily fluids which places them at potential risk of being exposed to Hepatitis B and C, HIV, other viruses, and infectious processes. Therefore, ensuring up-to-date immunization is a necessary safety measure.

III. DEFINITIONS

N/A

IV. PROCEDURES

- A. Students are required to complete a university health screening process through the Howard University Student Health Center prior to starting their matriculation, then annually thereafter. More frequent health screenings may be performed, as necessary.
- B. All students are required to provide verification of immunization and medical requirements via Med+Proctor, a cloud-based, fully automated, and user-friendly platform that is both HIPAA and FERPA compliant.
- C. All new students to the University are required to submit a completed Entrance Medical Record form to the University Student Health Center via Med+Proctor. The health screening includes:


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- Initial physical examination and annually thereafter done at the Student Health Center
- Screening for tuberculosis – 2 step PPD or blood screening (QuantiFERON Gold) completed within 21 days
 - Fall semester – screening between March to August
 - Spring semester – screening between July to January
- Serology testing is annual and is a part of the annual Health Sciences physical examination
 - a. Proof of immunity through titers (quantitative):
 - i. MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) – 2 doses
 - ii. Hepatitis B – 3 doses
 - iii. Varicella – 2 doses
 - b. Tetanus (Td)/Tdap - within the past 10 years.
 - i. Tdap should receive a single dose of Tdap prior to their rotation. Tdap dose interval may be as short as two years from the last Td
 - c. Meningitis vaccine, after age 16
 - d. Polio vaccine, after age 18
 - e. COVID-19 vaccine*
 - f. Additional requirements if rotating through other specialties (such as nasopharyngeal cultures for pediatric rotation, etc.)

[*COVID Vaccine Policy Statement for Students at Howard | Howard University](#)

Howard University will require all students who are in person to be fully vaccinated (two or more weeks have passed since receipt of the second dose in a two-dose series or since receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine) against COVID-19 prior to being on campus. This policy went into effect on August 1, 2021. There is only one exception for students to come to campus if they have not been fully vaccinated, and that is to receive a vaccine.

- Please note that while students with approved medical or religious exemptions for the COVID vaccination requirement will be allowed to attend classes on campus (following appropriate safety protocols), they will **NOT** be permitted to live in on-campus housing.

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In the event of a documented (University approved) exemption, the PA program will not require the COVID-19 vaccine. However, the program is required to adhere to all clinical site policies, rules, and regulations.

Policies of clinical affiliate sites continually change, and sites may require students to have the COVID-19 vaccine to attend the clinical rotation.

The program may not be able to assign students who have not received the COVID-19 vaccine to clinical sites. This may result in a delay of program completion and incur additional tuition and fees.