



## Nursing Student Health and Clinical Compliance

<b>Definition</b>	California State University San Marcos (CSUSM) School of Nursing (SoN) follows health and clinical compliance requirements from agencies utilized for clinical placements. This policy states the health and clinical compliance requirements for SoN students to attend clinical experiences during their nursing program.
<b>Scope</b>	Undergraduate and Graduate Students
<b>Responsible Division</b>	California State University San Marcos, School of Nursing

### Policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide students in the SoN at CSUSM with information regarding health compliance. San Diego/Inland Empire Nursing Service Education Consortia, as well as the SoN's agreements with clinical agencies, require that the SoN maintain current health compliance documentation for all of our students.

- Undergraduate students will complete their background check, drug screen, and upload clinical compliance documents to the San Diego Nursing & Allied Health Education Consortium's Complio website at [sdnahcbackground.com](http://sdnahcbackground.com).
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure all requirements are up-to-date and uploaded into their immunization tracker. The requirements \ to be considered compliant are mentioned in the Procedure section below. These requirements may change by semester and/or clinical site.
- **Students must be compliant by the start of in-person courses each semester, both on campus and at the clinical site. Students are expected to maintain compliance throughout the semester. Failure to achieve and/or maintain compliance will result in the student being ineligible to attend any clinical or didactic courses. Inability to attend scheduled in-person experiences may result in failure of the associated courses as defined by the attendance policy.**
- All titers (blood draw) for immunity must be done within 5 years of starting the nursing program.

### Procedure

#### Health Compliance Requirements

- Covid-19
  - Currently this is an optional category. Covid-19 vaccination is encouraged, and any policy updates will necessitate compliance. If vaccinated for Covid-19, students are advised to upload proof of vaccination to facilitate validation if the requirement changes. A declination form is required and needs to be uploaded to

the immunization tracker. Site specific policies for students declining vaccination must also be adhered to (e.g wearing a mask). Clinical sites determine the necessity of vaccination and can change their policies at any time. If the requirement changes, vaccination will be needed to continue in the program. The University permits medical and religious exemptions, clinical sites may not.

- Tuberculosis:
  - For **new students**, one of the following must be met:
    - Two-step negative TB Skin Test (PPD): Complete first PPD, 2nd PPD administered/placed 1-3 weeks after first test is read;  
**OR**
    - Having a current (within the last 365 days) negative QuantiFERON Gold blood test \*\*\*includes Interferon-gamma release assays, TB stimulated gamma interferon, Quantiferon-TB, Gamma Interferon (TB);  
**OR**
    - *If there is a known positive PPD TB skin test or QuantiFERON Gold blood test, you must submit proof of the following **3 items**:*
      - Documented positive PPD or QuantiFERON Gold test,
      - Negative chest x-ray (within the last two years - actual radiology report required), **and**
      - Annual TB Symptom Questionnaire (CSUSM SoN form)
    - Only students that have a documented past positive TB test will be able to submit a chest x-ray and TB Symptom Questionnaire.
    - Some clinical agencies require a chest x-ray within the past year and students will have to meet agency requirements.
  - For **returning students**, annual negative TB documentation is required. This can be achieved by:
    - A single negative PPD skin test, if completed **within 365 days** of their previous test;  
**OR**
    - If not within 365 days of the previous test, the student will be required to have a repeat two-step negative TB Skin Test (PPD), identical to ‘new student’ above;  
**OR**
    - Annual negative QuantiFERON Gold Test (if recommended by your healthcare provider). \*\*\*includes Interferon-gamma release assays, TB stimulated gamma interferon, Quantiferon-TB, Gamma Interferon (TB)  
**OR**
    - For those students that have a previous Positive TB test, a TB Symptom Questionnaire will be required **annually**.
      - Some clinical agencies require a chest x-ray within the past year and students will have to meet agency requirements.

- Measles (Rubeola), Mumps, and Rubella (MMR):
  - Positive, immune, or reactive titers (IgG blood work) for Measles (Rubeola), Mumps, and Rubella must be submitted. For titer documentation, a copy of the actual titer results with qualitative interpretation (i.e. immune vs. non-immune, positive vs. negative) must be uploaded.
    - If the results show negative, equivocal, or non-reactive to measles, mumps, and/or rubella then the student will need to upload the negative titer and receive two MMR vaccines/boosters (at least 30 days apart).
    - Students receiving booster immunizations will be given temporary compliance (6 weeks) once the first immunization documentation has been submitted.
    - Once documentation of the two doses is completed, a repeat titer will be required 6 weeks after the second vaccine.
    - If the repeat titer is negative or equivocal, and the student’s healthcare provider suggests that the student is a non-converter, then a letter from their healthcare provider stating that they believe the student to be a non-converter must be uploaded into their immunization tracker.
    - If a student cannot receive the vaccine for any reason, the student needs to submit a letter from their healthcare provider.
    - All letters need to be submitted to the immunization tracker under “Application for Exception”. The letter must be on the healthcare provider’s letterhead, signed, and stamped by the healthcare prover.
  
- Varicella (Chickenpox):
  - Positive, immune, or reactive Varicella titer (IgG blood work) must be submitted. For titer documentation, a copy of the actual titer results with qualitative interpretation (i.e. immune vs. non-immune, positive vs. negative) must be uploaded.
    - If the results show negative, equivocal, or non-reactive to varicella then the student will need to upload the negative titer and receive two varicella vaccines/boosters (at least 30 days apart).
    - Students going through immunizations will be given temporary compliance (6 weeks) once the first immunization documentation has been submitted.
    - Once documentation of the two doses is completed, a repeat titer will be required 6 weeks after the second vaccine.
    - If the repeat titer is negative or equivocal, and the student’s healthcare provider suggests that the student is a non-converter, then a letter from their healthcare provider stating that they believe the student to be a non-converter must be uploaded into their immunization tracker.
    - If a student cannot receive the vaccine for any reason, the student needs to submit a letter from their healthcare provider.

- All letters need to be submitted to the immunization tracker under “Application for Exception”. The letter must be on the healthcare provider’s letterhead, signed, and stamped by the healthcare prover.
- Hepatitis B:
  - Positive, immune, or reactive Hepatitis B **Surface Antibody** (HBsAb) titer (blood draw) must be submitted. For titer documentation, a copy of the actual titer results with qualitative interpretation (i.e. immune vs. non-immune, positive vs. negative) must be uploaded.
    - If the results show negative, equivocal, or non-reactive to Hepatitis B then the student will need to upload the negative titer and receive the 3 dose vaccine series or the 2-dose series (Heplisav).
    - Students going through the three dose vaccine series will be given temporary compliance of six weeks after the first dose. The second dose must be given no earlier than 30 days after the first dose and will provide 6 months of temporary compliance. The third dose must be given after 30 days and provide six weeks of temporary compliance while awaiting a repeat titer.
    - If the student receives the Heplisav booster, they will only require two doses. Heplisav must be **clearly stated** on the documentation. Students receiving a Heplisav series have temporary compliance similar to Varicella (six weeks after first dose, six weeks to provide a repeat titer after the second dose)
    - Once documentation of the two or three required doses is completed, a repeat titer will be required 30 days to 6 weeks after the final (second or third) vaccine dose.
    - If the repeat titer is negative the student would need to discuss with their healthcare provider about the possibility of being a non-converter. If the student’s healthcare provider suggests that the student is a non-converter, then a letter from their healthcare provider stating that they believe the student to be a non-converter must be uploaded into their immunization tracker.
    - If a student cannot receive the vaccine for any reason, the student needs to submit a letter from their healthcare provider.
    - All letters need to be submitted to the immunization tracker under “Application for Exception”. The letter must be on the healthcare provider’s letterhead, signed, and stamped by the healthcare prover.
- Tetanus Diphtheria and Acellular Pertussis (Tdap):
  - Students must upload documentation of Tdap given within the last 10 years.
  - This vaccine expires every 10 years and will need to be renewed should it expire during the students’ time in the nursing program.

- Seasonal Influenza Vaccine:
  - Students must receive the influenza immunization once per flu season, beginning October 1st each year.
  - The required influenza immunization form for undergraduate students can be found at <http://sdnsec.org/>, Community (Undergraduate Nursing/Complio Info and Student Forms), and within the category on the Complio site. Please be sure to use the correct form for the current flu season. The required information includes manufacturer, lot number, expiration, and route given.
  - No declination/waivers will be accepted, for medical and religious reasons only.
    - If a student cannot receive the vaccine for a medical reason, the student needs to submit a letter from their healthcare provider.
    - All letters need to be submitted to the immunization tracker under “Application for Exception”. The letter must be on the healthcare provider’s letterhead, signed, and stamped by the healthcare provider.
    - Influenza declination documentation must be turned in each year.
    - Please be aware that students who decline the influenza vaccination, will be required to adhere by the clinical site’s flu declination policy. This can be different for each site and/or unit. For example, some clinical sites may require students to purchase and wear a face mask the entire time while on that unit. The mask must be changed out multiple times per day.
  
- Health and Physical Exam Form:
  - The purpose of the Health and Physical Exam Form is to provide clearance that a student is able to safely work in a clinical setting with patients.
  - The form is completed by a healthcare provider **annually**. The completed form will be uploaded.
  - The provided physical exam form must be completely filled out, signed, dated, and stamped by your healthcare provider.

#### Clinical Compliance Requirements

- CPR Certification:
  - The only course accepted is the American Heart Association CPR & BLS w/AED for Healthcare Providers. Any CPR certification other than American Heart Association will not be accepted (including ACLS/PALS).
  - A copy of the physical card (both sides with signature) as well as the e-card are acceptable to upload into the students’ immunization tracker.
  - American Heart Association’s CPR & BLS w/ AED Healthcare Provider CPR certification is only valid for two years. Students will need to update this requirement should their certification expire during the program.
  
- Training Modules:
  - HIPAA

- The HIPAA self-learning module and acknowledgement form can be found online. The UCSD HIPAA self-study module provided by the San Diego Nursing Education Consortium can be found at <http://www.sdnsec.org/forms/32019HIPAAEducationUCSDWorkforceModuleFinal.pdf>.
    - You will need to print the completed Individual HIPAA Training Acknowledgement Form and submit it to their immunization tracker. You can leave the Employee ID # and Work Area blank. Your role is CSUSM Nursing Student. Please be sure to print your name, sign and date the form.
  - Bloodborne Pathogen
    - Training will be provided by the SoN.
- Proof of Health Insurance:
  - Proof of current health insurance coverage must be submitted (i.e. health insurance card, statement of coverage, etc.).
- California BRN License (**RN-BSN & MSN students only**):
  - All post-licensure students must submit proof of your current, active California Nursing License using the breeze website. Enter your license information at <https://search.dca.ca.gov/>.
  - Once you have located your license information, click “more detail”. You will need to print and upload this page and it must include: Name, License type, Status, Disciplinary Actions, Public Record Actions, and Expiration Date.
  - If the page does not include the website address at the bottom, please also include your CA BRN License Card (Current or Expired).
- Required Documents:
  - The required forms must be reviewed, completed, signed, and dated. They can be located in the immunization tracker and/or student central.
    - Release of Liability Form
    - Release of Information Form
    - CSU Visual and Audio Image Release Form
    - Mandated Reporter Form
    - Academic Honesty Policy Attestation Form
    - Student Handbook Acknowledgement Form
    - Federal Facility Clinical Placement Form
- Background Check & Drug Screen
  - All students are required to provide a clear Nursing Consortium background check and drug screen, including a state, county, and federal screening, to the SoN by the established deadline or at least 4 weeks before the start of the semester. Additional background check and drug screens will be required by the

SoN throughout the program. Results are accessed by the clinical agencies for clinical placement approval. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in dismissal from the program.

- Background checks and drug screens are done initially, prior to starting clinical, and prior to a pediatric clinical rotation. If the student's educational process is interrupted or a name change occurs, a new background check and drug screen will be required.
- Drug screens will be required to return for any student who has been out of the SoN for 3 academic semesters or one full year, whichever is longer.
- If a student has a positive drug screen, the student will need to take a leave of absence and then petition to re-enroll.
- Additional background checks may be requested if any legal incidents occur during a student's program. It is the student's responsibility to notify the SoN (Nursing Director and/or Associate Director) within 24 hours of a legal incidence (i.e. charges, arrests, misdemeanors/felonies, etc.).
- Some clinical sites will require students to complete a LiveScan clearance. Students will be notified in advance if a LiveScan is required. If the student does not clear the LiveScan clearance, then s/he may not be permitted to attend the clinical rotation. The student risks dismissal from the program should this occur.
- Applicants for Licensure by Examination in the state of California must take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN). The California Board of Registered Nursing requires a Live Scan fingerprint application as part of the application process. The Live Scan includes a State (DOJ) and Federal (FBI) level criminal history record check. Please access <http://www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/enforcement/appdocs.pdf> for additional information.