

Standard A3.07 The program must define, publish, make readily available and consistently apply:
a) a policy on immunization and health screening of students. Such policy must be based on then current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations for health professionals and state specific mandates.

MSPAS Student Policy Manual in Sections:

4.5.2.1 Immunization Policy,

4.5.2.2 Other Health Documentation Requirements,

Health Documentation Requirements

4.5.2.1 Immunization Policy

- All Lenoir-Rhyne University MSPAS students are required to maintain their personal health records in good standing.
- Immunizations must be up to date for health professionals based on the CDC guidelines.
 - a. This must be documented prior to starting any clinical rotations or clinical experiences.
- Additional requirements may be made by specific clinical sites, which the student must take care of in a timely manner.
- All immunizations and titers are the financial responsibility of the MSPAS student.
- The MSPAS Program will not allow students who do not complete or do not pass a drug test and background check, as required by preceptor sites, to participate in clinical rotations or clinical experiences.

Proof of immunization is required for specific populations by the state of North Carolina. Failure to meet this requirement within 30 days after the first day of class could result in an immediate dismissal from the University as mandatory under the law.

NCDHHS website <https://immunization.dph.ncdhhs.gov/schools/collegesuniversities.htm>

The following immunizations are required.

- 2 doses of DTP/DPT, DTaP, or Tdap (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis series) and 1 dose of Tdap or Td in the last 10 years. (3 total vaccines required)
- 2 doses of the measles vaccine, 2 doses of the mumps vaccine, and 1 dose of the rubella vaccine. (All three together are commonly known as MMR). Serological testing or titer test results are acceptable as well. Healthcare personnel without presumptive evidence of immunity should get two doses of MMR vaccine, separated by at least 28 days.
 - 3 doses of the Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 shot Heplisav-B series.
 - 2 doses of the Varicella vaccine or positive titer.
 - 3 doses of the Polio vaccine are required. An individual attending school who has attained his or her 18th birthday is not required to receive polio vaccine per NC immunization requirements. Adults who are known or suspected to be unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated against Polio should receive and complete the Polio vaccination series with IPV. Adults who completed

their polio vaccination but who are at increased risk of exposure to poliovirus may receive one lifetime IPV booster. (Includes healthcare workers or other caregivers who have close contact with a person who could be infected with poliovirus).

- Meningococcal vaccine- Two doses per NC immunization requirements.
 - One dose is required for individuals entering the seventh grade or by 12 years of age, whichever comes first on or after July 1, 2015. A booster dose is required for individuals entering the 12th grade or by 17 years of age, whichever comes first. Individuals who entered seventh grade before July 1, 2015 are not required to receive the first dose. The booster dose does not apply to individuals who entered the 12th grade before August 1, 2020. If the first dose is administered on or after the 16th birthday, a booster dose is not required. Individuals born before January 1, 2003 shall not be required to receive meningococcal conjugate vaccine.
 - The Meningococcal vaccine is recommended for certain Healthcare Workers. NCDHHS website <https://immunization.dph.ncdhhs.gov/schools/collegesuniversities.htm>
- **Physician Assistant and Doctor of Nursing Practice Students** must provide proof of the annual flu vaccine, COVID, and proof of other vaccines necessary for health care providers as recommended by the CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/adult-medical-condition.html>
 - The CDC recommends the updated 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines and the updated 2024-2025 flu vaccines to protect against severe COVID-19 and flu for health care providers.
 - COVID-19 Vaccine- CDC recommends everyone ages 6 months and older receive an updated 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine to protect against the potentially serious outcomes of COVID-19 whether or not they have ever previously been vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine. Updated COVID-19 vaccines are available from Moderna, Novavax, and Pfizer in 2024. This recommendation can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/adult-notes.html#note-covid-19>
 - Influenza vaccine annually-IIV4 or RIV4. CDC recommends everyone 6 months of age and older, with rare exceptions, receive an updated 2024-2025 flu vaccine to reduce the risk of influenza and its potentially serious complications. Most people need only one dose of the flu vaccine each season. While CDC recommends flu vaccination as long as influenza viruses are circulating, September and October remain the best times for most people to get vaccinated. Healthcare workers are a high-priority group for vaccinations because they are more likely to be exposed to the flu through contact with sick patients. They can also spread the flu to close contacts and patients. The findings of a CDC review of related published literature indicate that influenza vaccination of health care personnel can enhance patient safety.

Students within the College of Health Sciences may be required to provide proof of additional vaccines during their tenure as deemed appropriate by the program and/or the clinical site.

How to Obtain immunization records:

Immunization records can be requested from your physical or the state health department in the state of your residency.

Where to submit records:

All records should be submitted via your application/enrollment portal under “materials” and titled “student immunization records.” Questions regarding submission should be directed to admission@lr.edu.

Our PA program also requires:

- Tuberculosis testing (TB) - Negative TB Skin Test/PPD or QuantiFERON-TB Gold
 - Positive results will require the student to receive a chest x-ray and further evaluation.
 - Students must have completed an annual TB skin test or appropriate serum test prior to admission to the program.
 - If a student is a known reactor, by either skin or serum testing, a follow up chest x-ray must be completed and documented.
 - Students will likely need to complete a QuantiFERON-TB Gold within 60 days of the start of clinical rotations, depending on site requirements.

An exemption received from LRU may not be accepted by the clinical rotation site. Therefore, the LRU PA Program cannot guarantee clinical placements for students who are not fully vaccinated.

The immunization requirements for clinical students are set by our clinical rotation sites. All students must comply with the program and clinical rotation site immunization policies at which they are assigned to successfully complete the program. It is the responsibility of the student to keep their immunization record up to date; failure to do so may result in delayed graduation.

4.5.2.2 Other Health Documentation Requirements**Proof of Current Health Insurance Coverage**

- a. Students must provide the program proof of current health insurance
- b. Clinical sites may also require this information prior to start of a clinical rotation

Physical Examination

Completion of a comprehensive physical examination by a licensed medical provider or family doctor indicating that the applicant has been medically cleared for admission is required for program matriculation. Go to <https://www.lr.edu/admission/graduate-admission/admitted-graduate-students> and select Health Forms under “Information & Resources”, then choose College of Health Sciences Medical Clearance Form. Have the forms completed then submit to Lenoir-Rhyne University Student Health via the admissions portal.