



## BACTERIAL MENINGITIS NOTIFICATION

Texas state law (SB 1107) requires that students who meet the criteria below must provide proper documentation that they have received the bacterial meningitis vaccination within the **last five years** and **at least 10 calendar days before** the beginning of their first academic semester:

- New or transfer students under the age of 22, or
- Returning students under the age of 22 who have not been enrolled in the SSA for at least one fall or spring term.

Evidence of vaccination must indicate that the vaccination was received at least 10 days before the first day of the semester, and it must be submitted in one of the following four formats. All documents must include the month, day, and year the vaccination was administered:

- A complete meningitis immunization record form (to be used if you plan to obtain your vaccination from somewhere other than your personal physician's office);
- A document bearing the signature or stamp of a physician, his or her designee, or public health personnel;
- An official immunization record generated from a state or local health authority; or
- An official record received from school officials, including a record from another state.

Any student who, for bona fide reasons, declines this vaccination requirement must do so in one of the following ways:

- An affidavit or certificate signed by a physician who is duly registered and licensed to practice medicine in the United States, in which it is stated that, in the physician's opinion, the vaccination required would be injurious to the health and well-being of the student;
- Confirmation that the student has completed the Internet-based Department of State Health Services form to claim an exemption for reasons of conscience (for entering students at public junior colleges ONLY).
- An affidavit signed by the student stating that the student declines the vaccination for bacterial meningitis for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief. A conscientious exemption form from the Texas Department of State Health Services must be used.
  - For information about requesting a conscientious objection exemption form from DSHS, please visit: <http://collegevaccinerequirements.com/>. The DSHS exemption form may be ordered electronically; however it will be mailed to the address provided by the student. Please allow up to two weeks to receive the form. The form must be completed, notarized, and submitted to the Admissions office.