

MENINGOCOCCAL NOTIFICATION

In September 2001, the State of California enacted legislation that requires all students who enroll at the California State University and license for on-campus housing to be provided information related to meningococcal disease and vaccination. The legislation also requires that each Licensee must complete a response form indicating that the Licensee received this information and whether or not he/she chooses to receive a vaccination.

Completion of this form is required. Failure to complete and submit this form to the Housing & Residential Life Office will result in a HOLD placed on your registration and places your Housing Status in danger.

Completed forms received by Housing & Residential Life contain two copies of this notification. One copy of this will be returned to the Licensee with their room assignment. The additional copy will be forwarded to Student Health Services and confidentially filed with other student immunization records. University Housing Services will not retain a copy of this notification.

MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE AND VACCINE

Meningococcal disease can be life threatening. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Diseases Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics have recommended that college students consider immunization with the meningococcal vaccine to prevent Meningococcal disease. The American College Health Association has recommended that colleges and universities inform all students about the disease and educate students about the availability of a safe and effective vaccine. In an effort to better serve you, Student Health Center (SHC) would like to provide you with the following information about Meningococcal disease and its prevention with the vaccine:

- ☒ Meningococcal disease is caused by the bacterium *N. meningitidis* and is a leading cause of meningitis and blood-borne infection among teens and young adults. Approximately **1 in 5 victims dies despite antibiotic treatment**, often within the first 24 hours of the onset of symptoms.
- ☒ The disease spreads through the air through respiratory secretions as well as by direct contact with a carrier by kissing, sharing drinking glasses, etc.
- ☒ **College students are at a higher risk.** Studies have suggested that crowded living conditions, a geographically diverse student population, radiator heat, active and passive smoking, bar patronage, and alcohol consumption increase the risk of getting meningococcal disease. **The incidence of invasive meningococcal infection is three times greater for students living on campus than those living off campus. Students living in residence halls were at least 9 times more likely to get Meningococcal disease than those not living in the residence halls.**
- ☒ Over 3000 cases occur per year in the US, and are caused by various subgroups of the *N. meningitidis* bacterium such as C, Y, B, A, W-135.
- ☒ Entering college students, particularly those living in residence halls and group housing, are advised to **strongly consider getting a dose of Meningococcal vaccine.** The vaccine, which is usually effective for up to 3-5 years, protects against the A, C, Y and W-135 strains of *N. meningitidis*.

Based on the possibility of increased risk, we recommend that students consider the Meningococcal vaccine as a way to reduce their risk for potentially fatal Meningococcal disease. No vaccine is ever 100% effective, but this vaccine has been shown to be 85%-100% effective in preventing the disease caused by two of the most common types of the Meningococcal bacteria, type C and type Y. It does not protect against type B that causes about 30% of the infections.

We urge you to strongly consider vaccination with either your family doctor, HMO, clinic, or at the Student Health Center. The vaccine is given in a one-dose injection and is available at the Student Health Center for \$65.00 (the cost of the medication). Please call (909) 880-7027 to schedule an appointment at the Student Health Center if you wish to receive the vaccine. Students who are under age 18 should discuss getting vaccinated with their parent(s) or guardian and can receive the vaccine at Student Health Center with written parental or guardian permission.

For additional information on meningococcal disease and vaccination, please review the following web sites:

- Center for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov
- American College Health Association: www.acha.org

REQUIRED FORM ON REVERSE SIDE

MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE AND VACCINE

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
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Student ID Number	D.O.B.
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First Quarter Attending CSU San Bernardino

<input type="checkbox"/> Fall	Year _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Winter	
<input type="checkbox"/> Spring	
<input type="checkbox"/> Summer	

I have received the attached information regarding the Meningococcal Disease and Vaccine. (Please check one box)

- I have already received this vaccination
- I am planning to receive this Vaccine at a) _____ b) CSUSB SHC
- I do not want to receive this vaccine

Student Signature	Date
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Parent/Guardian Name (If Student Under Age 18)	Parent/Guardian Signature
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