

MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINATION RESPONSE FORM

New York State Public Health Law requires that all college and university students enrolled for at least six (6) semester hours or the equivalent per semester, or at least four (4) semester hours per quarter, complete and return the following form to [enter name of college/university health center].

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that all first-year college students up to 21 years of age have at least 1 dose of Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccine (Brand names: Menactra, Menveo) not more than 5 years before enrollment, preferably on or after the 16th birthday.

Young adults 16 through 23 years of age may choose to receive the Meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine series (Brand names: Trumenba, Bexsero). College and university students should discuss the MenB vaccine with a healthcare provider.

Check one box and sign below.

I have (for students under the age of 18 years refers to the parent or legal guardian) received and reviewed the information regarding meningococcal disease.

- I (My child) had meningococcal immunization (MenACWY and/or MenB) within the past 5 years. The vaccine record is attached.
- I (My child) will obtain meningococcal immunization **within 30 days** from my private health care provider or [ENTER NAME OF COLLEGE HEALTH CENTER OR OTHER HEALTH FACILITY].
- I understand the risks of meningococcal disease and the benefits of immunization at the recommended ages. I have decided that I (my child) will **not** obtain immunization against meningococcal disease at this time.

Signed: _____
(Student or Parent/Guardian if student is a minor)

Date: _____

Student's name (Print): _____

Student
Date of Birth: _____

Student
E-mail address: _____

Student ID#: _____

Student
Mailing Address: _____

Student
Phone number: (_____) _____

Meningococcal Disease Information for Students and Parents

New York State Public Health Law (NYS PHL) 2167 requires institutions, including colleges and universities, to distribute information about meningococcal disease to all students registered at NYSID.

NYSID is required to maintain a record of the following for each student:

- A response receipt of meningococcal disease and vaccine information signed by the student or student's parent/guardian if under 18 years old.
- A record of meningococcal immunization within the last **5 years**; OR
- An acknowledgement of meningococcal disease risks and refusal of meningococcal immunization by the student or student's parent/guardian.

Meningococcal disease is rare. However, when it strikes, its flu-like symptoms make diagnosis difficult. Meningococcal disease can cause serious illnesses such as an infection of the lining of the brain and spinal column (meningitis) or blood infections. The disease strikes quickly and can lead to severe and permanent disabilities such as hearing loss, seizures, brain damage, limb amputation or death. Symptoms include headache, vomiting, stiff neck, and a rash. Symptoms may appear 2 to 10 days after exposure.

Meningococcal disease can spread easily from person to person by coughing, sharing utensils and drinks, kissing, or spending time in close contact with someone who is sick or carries the bacteria. The bacteria can spread before someone knows they are sick.

The single best way to prevent meningococcal disease is to be vaccinated. The meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccine protects against four major strains of the bacteria which cause about two-thirds of meningococcal disease in the United States. The MenACWY vaccine is recommended for all U.S. teenagers and young adults up to age 21 years old. Protection from the MenACWY vaccine is estimated to last about 3 to 5 years. Young adults who received the MenACWY vaccine before their 16th birthday should receive a booster dose before entering college. The meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine protects against the fifth type of meningococcal disease, which accounts for about one-third of cases in the US. Young adults 16 through 23 years of age may choose to receive the MenB vaccine series. They should discuss the MenB vaccine with their medical provider.

Please complete Immunization Form – Part 1, which includes the Meningococcal Meningitis Response Form and return it to NYSID. Please note that according to NYS Public Health Law, no institutions shall permit any student to attend the institution in excess of 30 days without complying with this law. The 30-day period may be extended to 60 days if a student can show a good faith effort to comply.

For more information regarding the meningococcal disease and the vaccine, please visit Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov/meningococcal and the New York State Department of Health website at <https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2168/>