

Immunization Requirements (as of November 22, 2024)

To honor the agreements with the various healthcare institutions used for the clinical portion of the FHU Nursing program and to be allowed to participate in the clinical courses within the Nursing program, you must submit evidence of the immunization requirements set forth by the hosting clinical site(s). The evidence may be either documentation of the vaccine or a titer.

Attendance and participation in clinical-based learning experiences is a requirement for nursing students. Students that fail to provide evidence of the required vaccines or that choose not to be vaccinated will either 1) not be eligible for admission to the Nursing program or 2) not be able to continue in the program for failure to meet clinical requirements.

Regarding the flu vaccine, some clinical sites allow informed refusal (declination); however, there are others that only except either medical or religious exemptions. If an exemption is sought, it must be done in accordance with their procedures. **If you are seeking exemption, please communicate that to Dr. White (cjwhite@fhu.edu) when you submit your application for program admission.** Please be aware that 1) there are no guarantees that requests will be approved, 2) that each site has their own process, and approval at one site doesn't mean approval will be received at another, and 3) that neither FHU nor the Nursing program are the approving authorities on the requests for exemption. If you are unvaccinated and an exemption is not received, you cannot participate in the clinical portion of the program and will therefore either be 1) not admitted or 2) withdrawn administratively from the program.

As of this date, these are the current requirements:

- **TB skin test must be current.** "Current" means it will not expire during the academic year (August thru May). **This is to be a two-step TB test.** A 2-step TB test is defined as **two tests done within 21 days of each other.** Must provide proof of a negative reading. If student presents with a positive TB skin test, a baseline chest x-ray must be present with final results. For simplicity, you could also get the Quantiferon-TB Gold blood test to meet this requirement. **NOTE:** At this time, the TB test is an annual requirement.
- **Hepatitis-B vaccine.** Documentation of a completed series of Hepatitis-B vaccine or a + titer or documentation of having begun the series, or documentation of declination.
- **Varicella (chicken pox).** Documentation of Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine, or + titer, or documentation of declination.
- **MMR (measles, mumps, rubella).** Documentation of MMR vaccine, or + titer, or documentation of declination.
- **Tdap (tetanus) within 10 years.** If it is set to expire during the academic year, it needs to be updated before the semester begins.
- **Flu vaccine (October 1-March 31).** More information will be provided to the student on this requirement during this time period. **NOTE:** At this time, the flu vaccine is an

annual requirement and is required by some of our clinical sites. If an exemption is not approved, you cannot participate in the clinical portion of the program and will therefore either be 1) not admitted or 2) withdrawn administratively from the program.

Evidence must be submitted 1) with your application for the Nursing program and/or 2) upon request from the Nursing program.

- You may submit these as a PDF document (**not** JPG or other picture format) via email to **cjwhite@fhu.edu**. Please ensure the documents are legible. **NOTE:** This is the preferred option of submission.
- You may submit these via fax to 731.989.6316.
- You may submit these in hardcopy to Dr. White on the Henderson campus if you are in the area and have coordinated to do so in advance.

In addition to the above, you need to provide evidence of current medical health insurance, as well as a copy of your driver's license. When submitting evidence (copy of card, letter from insurance provider), please be sure that you provide a copy of both sides of the insurance card and that it is legible. Again, the preferred means of submission is as a PDF sent by email to **cjwhite@fhu.edu**.

Please be aware that each hosting clinical site has the prerogative to amend their requirements as circumstances change. Additionally, some sites may require more frequent evidence, to include updated urine drug screens and background checks. These will be communicated to effected students as soon as they are known.

The Nursing program does not have access to any immunization documents you provided to the University for admission purposes. It is your responsibility to provide the evidence to the Nursing program as requested.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please email Dr. White at **cjwhite@fhu.edu** or you may call 731.989.6034.

Respectfully,

Christopher J. White, EdD, MSN, BSN, BSBA, RN
Chair, Department of Nursing; Associate Professor of Nursing