



POLICY 5300

STUDENT HEALTH OFFICE

Policy Category: Students

Area of Administrative Responsibility: Student Health Office

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PURPOSE

Nassau Community College recognizes that good student health is vital to successful learning and acknowledges its responsibility to protect and foster a safe and healthful environment for all of its students. The College is responsible for preserving the overall health, safety, and welfare of the Nassau Community College Campus and community. The Purpose of this policy is to set out the immunization requirements for College students and to outline the responsibilities of the Student Health Office in ensuring the College's compliance with applicable health laws and regulations.

SCOPE

This policy is binding on all College students.

POLICY

A. Confidentiality: Student Health Office maintains a strict policy on confidentiality, in compliance with federal and New York State laws, to safeguard the privacy and security of student health records. All student records pertaining to health maintained by the College shall be kept confidential in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

B. Immunization Requirements:

New York State law requires that students born on or after January 1, 1957, enrolled for six or more credits with at least one face-to-face course, demonstrate proof of immunity against measles, mumps and rubella. Proof of Immunizations must be submitted prior to registration at Nassau Community College. The law further mandates that students who fail to submit proof of immunization prior to the 30th day of the semester will be

disenrolled from all classes. Limited exceptions are granted for students who hold “genuine and sincere religious beliefs,” which are contrary to immunization and for students for whom immunization would be physically detrimental or otherwise medically contraindicated.

If a student is unable to provide an immunization record, the Student Health Office nursing staff may access the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS) or City Immunization Registry (CIR) to determine if the student has met the immunization requirements. If the system indicates that the student has received the required vaccinations, the information will be entered as part of the student’s record, the source and the dates noted, and the documentation requirement will have been met.

Disenrolled students are not permitted to be physically present in classes and will receive "W" grades for all enrolled classes. Disenrolled students will not be permitted to register for the next semester until all immunization requirements have been met. Students shall not be entitled to any refund of tuition and fees for the semester from which they have been disenrolled due to their failure to meet immunization requirements.

In the event of an outbreak of measles, mumps, or rubella, the New York State Department of Health will exercise emergency procedures that may require the College to ban the attendance of any student, regardless of credit load, who has not submitted proof of immunizations. In the event of an outbreak, attendance restrictions imposed by the New York State Department of Health shall not entitle students to a tuition refund beyond the College’s refund policy. Submitting documentation of immunization is the responsibility of the student and will ensure uninterrupted College attendance.

C. Meningitis Requirement:

New York State Public Health Law § 2167 requires colleges to distribute information about meningococcal disease and vaccination, including availability and cost of the vaccine, to all students enrolled for at least six (6) semester hours or the equivalent per semester.

Colleges in New York State are also required to maintain a record of the following for each student:

1. A response, signed by the student or parent/guardian if the student is under 18 years of age, that information about meningococcal disease and vaccine was received; and either
2. A record certifying that the student has already received immunization against meningococcal meningitis within the past five (5) years; OR an acknowledgment that the student, or, if the student is under the age of 18 a parent or guardian, has received and reviewed the information provided by the College and understands the risks of meningococcal meningitis and the benefits of immunization, and has decided that the student shall not obtain such immunization.

New York State law states that no institution of higher education shall permit any student to attend the institution in excess of 30 days from the start of the semester without

complying with requirements set out herein. However, the College may extend the 30-day period to 60 days if a student can show good faith effort to comply with requirements listed.

D. SUNY COVID-19 Vaccination Policy:

As per the State University of New York (SUNY) and New York State, the COVID-19 Vaccine Policy requires all students who will have a physical presence on campus to provide, at minimum, the initial course of COVID-19 vaccinations. Students are considered fully vaccinated for the initial course of vaccination: (1) two weeks after receiving the second dose in a two COVID-19 vaccine series or (2) two weeks after receiving a single dose COVID-19 vaccine. Proof of vaccination must be provided to NCC prior to registration for face-to-face classes. Limited exemptions are granted to students who hold “genuine and sincere” religious beliefs which are contrary to vaccination, or those students for whom immunization is medically contraindicated. NCC may designate deadlines by which students should submit any requests for exemption. Exemptions may also be granted to fully remote students who have a limited on-campus presence of no more than one visit per week. Such students must submit an attestation to NCC that states they will adhere to the campus presence level agreed to in the attestation, unless they submit proof of vaccination as mentioned above. Limited accommodations may also be granted for those students who are “in process” to be fully vaccinated. Students are considered “in process” to be fully vaccinated if they have received one dose of two dose vaccination series.

For the purposes of this policy, “Students” are defined as any individual matriculated or otherwise enrolled full-time or part-time at SUNY Facilities as well as visiting, auditing, exchange, continuing education, and international students taking in-person courses. The definition of student does not include individuals whose student’s status is solely due to participation in workforce training programming arranged directly through their employer, unless specifically designated by the campus. The definition of student also does not include high school students in concurrent enrollment courses offered by a SUNY campus and located at the student’s high school or other third-party location.

If a student is unable to provide their vaccinated record, the Student Health Office nursing staff may access the NYSIIS or CIR to determine if the student has met the vaccination requirement. If the system indicates that the student has received the required vaccinations, the information will be entered as part of the student’s record, the source and the dates noted, and the documentation requirement will have been met.

E. Other COVID-19 Policies (Masks, Social Distancing, Health Screening, Testing, Quarantine and Isolation):

NCC will continue to monitor the latest CDC, SUNY, State and Local Department of Health recommendations, as well as local COVID-19 conditions, when determining its COVID-19 preventative policies encompassing masking, social distancing, health screening, testing, quarantine, and isolation. The College will continue to adjust its policies as needed to ensure students are provided with a safe and healthy academic environment.

Any non-compliance with any SUNY or NCC COVID-19 policies and protocols will be handled through the Campus Code of Conduct for students.

F. Emergency Care:

The College shall provide emergency care for students in accidental or unexpected medical situations. The College will include in its emergency plan a protocol for responding to health care emergencies, including but not limited to anaphylaxis and concussions. To the extent possible and as long as emergency contact information is available, parents/guardians will be notified of any emergency medical situation as soon as is practicable. Students under 18 years old will provide a notarized “Consent Form for Students Under 18 years of Age”. Signed consent by a parent/guardian is required if the student needs emergency care, treatment, or first aid.

G. Communicable Diseases:

It is the responsibility of the College to provide all students with a safe and healthy academic environment. To meet this responsibility, it is sometimes necessary to exclude from attendance students with contagious and infectious diseases. Whenever students contract an infectious disease that can be spread through casual contact, they should immediately report it to the Student Health Office. Upon notification, the Student Health Office will give direction or referral for treatment. If a student shows symptoms of any communicable or infectious disease they will be referred to their health care provider. If any diagnosis of a reportable disease under the Public Health Law that imposes a significant risk of infection of others at the College is made, the student shall be excluded from the College. Students will be excluded during periods of contagion for time periods indicated by the New York State Department of Health with guidance from the Nassau County Department of Health and the student’s health care provider.

It is the responsibility of the College, working through the College’s Student Health Office personnel, to enforce this policy and to contact the County or local health department when a reportable case of a communicable disease is identified in the student or staff population. Furthermore, the College shall maintain an up-to-date list of susceptible students within the College. This list is to include all students who are exempt from immunizations and/or still in the process of completing their immunizations. These students shall be excluded from the College in the event of a vaccine-preventable disease occurrence, as ordered by the Commissioner of Health.

H. NCC Infectious Disease Notification Protocol:

1. Student Health Office (during regular working hours) 516-572-7123
2. Public Safety (Nights, Weekends, Holidays) 516-572-7100

The Office of Academic Student Services, the Office of the Dean of Students and the Office of Environmental Health and Safety will be notified when a communicable disease is suspected or confirmed on Campus.

I. Use of Automated External Defibrillators:

The College recognizes that the use and deployment of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in emergencies may reduce the number of deaths associated with sudden cardiac arrest. The College has created a Public Access Defibrillation Program (PAD Program) and has authorized its Emergency Health Care Provider (EHCP) to develop procedures on the handling of sudden cardiac arrest in students, staff and other members of the College community. The use of AEDs is subject to the following conditions:

1. The PAD Program shall be administered in compliance with Section 3000-B of the New York State Public Health Law and New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services Policy Statement 98-10, as amended, titled “Public Access Defibrillation”.
2. The College has entered into a collaborative agreement with a qualified EHCP, who is knowledgeable and experienced in emergency cardiac care.
3. The collaborative agreement with the EHCP will include the following provisions, at a minimum:
 - a. Written practice protocols for the use of the AED(s).
 - b. Written policies and procedures which:
 - i. Provide training requirements for AED users;
 - ii. Require the immediate calling of 911 emergency services;
 - iii. Require ready identification of the location of the AED units;
 - iv. Provide for regular maintenance procedures of the AED units which meet or exceed manufacturer’s recommendations;
 - v. Detail documentation requirements; and
 - vi. Define participation in a regionally approved quality improvement program.
4. The College has designated the Director of Office of Environmental Health and Safety (“EHS Director”) as a Coordinator of the PAD Program.
5. The EHS Director is responsible for implementing regulations concerning the proper care and maintenance of all AED devices.
6. Employees of the College will be authorized to utilize an AED only after participating in initial and follow-up training course for AED users.
7. The College will provide written notice of the availability of the AED service at various locations on Campus to 911 Emergency Services and/or the community equivalent ambulance dispatch entity.

J. Administration of Naloxone (Narcan):

1. Rates of death from drug intoxication or a drug overdose have risen dramatically in the United States. Opioid overdose kills thousands of Americans every year. College students are a high-risk population for drug misuse and combination drug use. Opioids are present in the majority of drug overdoses. Opioids cause death by inducing fatal respiratory depression which can easily be reversed by administering an opioid such as naloxone. Naloxone is an opioid antagonist (blocker) which rapidly counteracts the effects of opioids and has saved countless lives. Naloxone is not a controlled substance.
2. The utilization and administration of naloxone by trained College employees has a goal of reducing campus fatalities from opioid-related overdoses and exposures.
3. Overdose response training is required for College employees who may be called upon to serve as overdose responders in order to ensure that they can identify common symptoms of an opioid overdose and administer Narcan nasal spray. Narcan will be administered by a trained NCC Public Safety Officer or by NCC Nursing staff when there is reasonable belief that a person is suffering from an opioid overdose.
4. The College shall develop procedures for administration of Narcan, which will be updated as needed in order to ensure that all current guidelines and health and safety practices are adhered to.

K. Concussion Management:

1. Nassau Community College is committed to ensuring the health and safety of its student-athletes, and students participating in the College's Health and Physical Education programs. The College is committed to preventing student injuries, and properly responding to such injuries when they do occur. The College recognizes that concussions are common in certain contact, high-speed or collision sports. A concussion is a mild traumatic brain injury. Concussion occurs when normal brain functioning is disrupted by a blow or jolt to the head.
2. In order to assure proper management of concussions, the College shall develop procedures for properly responding to concussion incidents among College students. The procedures will cover safety protocols, creation and membership of a Concussion Management Team, concussion training, provision of medical care, pre-participation assessment, as well as protocols for safe return to activity following a concussion.