

PharmD Vaccination, Certification & Licensure Requirements

This is an introduction to the vaccination, certification and licensure requirements for the PharmD program to safely engage in patient care activities. Vaccination documentation can take time to find, so get started early. Please be aware that some vaccination series take months to complete. The WSU Health Sciences immunization and health screening policy is stricter than the university's policy. This stricter requirement is done to protect vulnerable patient populations during students' clinical experiential learning activities. Please read the updated [WSU Health Sciences Vaccination Policy](#).

Verifying & Tracking Requirements

The Washington State University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences has partnered with **CastleBranch** to track these requirements. Incoming students will receive instructions on how to register with CastleBranch (where the documentation will be uploaded) prior to their first fall semester in the program. Instructions to create a CastleBranch account, as well as notifications about upcoming requirements, will be sent via email to students.

In addition, other paperwork not listed here will be tracked through CastleBranch. These additional documents and applicable deadlines will be listed in your CastleBranch account.

Below you will find a description of each vaccination, certification and licensure requirement, as well as what documentation will be acceptable. Students will upload documentation of these items to their Castle Branch account for verification. CastleBranch will review documentation and validate or decline the documentation. If declined, students will be informed why and will need to resolve the issue and resubmit.

We understand that those who have not previously had the Hepatitis B series may not have the series and titer completed prior to the deadline, however students must have already started the series and show progress towards completing it. This series takes several months to complete. Do not delay.

If you are not sure where to find your vaccination history, a good place to start is with your primary care provider or a local/state immunization registry. Try using the tips found [here](#). Keep in mind that many of these are childhood vaccinations that you likely have completed already and will need to contact your current or childhood primary care provider for your records.

Vaccinations & Immunity Tests

Documentation must include:

- Student's name
- Date administered or date of results
- Facility/lab name and/or providers name

Acceptable documentation for vaccination and immunity tests (titers) includes:

- State immunization records
- Pharmacy documentation
- Immunization summary (must include the date, facility name OR physician signature, OR facility stamp)
- Military documentation
- Lab report with facility name
- Titer lab results must include numerical lab results indicating immunity status

Students requesting to seek a medical exemption for any required immunization should contact the Office of Experiential Services for the process.

Vaccination	Deadline	Description	Acceptable Documentation
HepB Series	September 15 of first fall term	<p>The Hepatitis B (HepB) vaccine has either a 2-dose or 3-dose series to produce immunity.</p> <p>2-dose HEPLIVSAV-B series:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1st immunization – 2nd immunization (1 month after the 1st immunization) <p>3-dose series:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1st immunization – 2nd immunization (1 month after the 1st immunization) – 3rd immunization (5 months after the 2nd immunization) 	<p>Submit documentation of each dose of the series.</p> <p>Note: It is best to upload documentation as it is received to show your progress towards completing this. We understand that this can take months to complete if you are starting or restarting the series.</p>
HepB Titer	September 15 of first fall term	<p>Titer results for Hepatitis B are also required to prove immunity to HepB. The titer must be completed at least 1 month after the final dose of vaccination in the HepB series. Results must show you are immune for this requirement to be complete.</p> <p>Note: There are several types of titers, a surface antigen (Anti-HBs) is required. If you do not show immunity after completing the series twice, you will be considered a non-responder.</p>	<p>Positive antibody to HepB surface antigen (Anti-HBs) titer indicating immunity (lab report or physician verification of results required).</p> <p>Titer results must include numerical results indicating immunity. Non-responders will be required to submit a doctor’s note.</p> <p>Acceptable titer type:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Anti-HBs (surface antigen) titer. <p>Unacceptable titer types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – HepB surface antigen (HBsAg) – Antibody to HepB core antigen (Anti-HBc) – IgM Antibody subclass of anti-HBc (IgM anti-HBc) – Hepatitis B “e” antigen (HBeAg)
MMR	October 1 of first fall term	<p>The measles, mumps and rubella vaccination are a 2-dose series of live MMR, received on or after the first birthday, separated by 28 days of more. In lieu of the vaccination documentation, students may show proof of immunity with a titer.</p>	<p>Submit one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 2 vaccinations – OR Positive antibody titer indicating immunity (lab report or physician verification of results required). <p>Note: If submitting titer results it must also include the numerical lab result indicating immunity.</p>

Tdap

October 1
of first fall term

This vaccination is for Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap).

Submit one of the following:

- A Tdap vaccine administered within the past 10 years,
- OR a Tdap vaccine administered (within your lifetime) AND a Td booster administered within the past 10 years.

COVID-19

October 1
of first fall term

There are several acceptable COVID-19 vaccinations available, including 2-dose series (Pfizer or Moderna) options and one 1-dose option (J & J Janssen Biotech). The Pfizer 2-dose series requires at least 21 days apart between doses, and the Moderna 2-dose series requires at least 28 days between doses. In lieu of the vaccination documentation

Submit documentation of each vaccine dose, the date given, vaccine manufacturer, student name and lot number for approval.

Varicella

October 1
of first fall term

The varicella vaccine is more commonly known as the chicken pox vaccination. This is a 2-dose series, doses separated by 4-8 weeks. In lieu of the vaccination documentation, students may show proof of immunity with a titer.

Submit one of the following:

- 2 vaccinations
- OR Positive antibody titer indicating immunity (lab report or physician verification of results required).

Note: If submitting titer results it must also include the numerical lab result indicating immunity.

Flu

October 1
of first fall term

Influenza (Flu): This is required starting the fall of your first term, and annually thereafter.

Documentation of a flu vaccine administered during the flu season (August-March) for that year. Documentation must include the name of the facility where it was administered.

TB

Spring term of first year, and annually thereafter

Tuberculosis (TB) testing to ensure students do not have active or latent TB.

Students will receive more information about this during the first year of the program from Experiential Services.

Submit one of the following:

- IGRA blood test (QuantiFERON or T-Spot)
- OR 2-Step skin test (requires 4 appointments).

Certifications & Licensing*

*These items must be renewed annually without any lapse.

**Costs listed are subject to change.

Students will receive more information on how to register through CastleBranch for OSHA and HIPAA trainings from Experiential Services in August.

Certification	Deadline	Description	Acceptable Documentation
CPR Certification: AHA BLS	October 1 of first fall term and renewed 2 years thereafter	American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS), for health care providers, CPR certification is required. It is strongly recommended to complete this prior to coming to campus, however both Spokane and Yakima campuses arrange training options (limited seats available) for AHA BLS training during the Orientation Week and/or throughout the first few weeks of classes. Find an AHA training center using this link. Note: fee required.	The front AND back of the card must be submitted at the same time and the Holder's Signature line on the back of the card must be signed. Note: Only an American Heart Association BLS CPR (for health care providers) card will be accepted. Courses from other organizations that state they meet AHA guidelines do not meet the requirement.
Washington Intern License	September 15 of first fall term, valid for 2 years and renewed on student's birthday.	Students receive notification from Student Services regarding when they can apply for this. At a minimum, the application requires your personal information and a fingerprinting/background check. For current requirement or to apply use this link . Note: fee required.	Submit one of the following: – A scanned copy of current WA Pharmacy Intern License – OR screenshot of license verification from the state website. Documentation must include student's name, license number and date of expiration.
OSHA Training	September 15 of first fall term, and annually thereafter	Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) training is required annually. This training includes modules for bloodborne pathogens, exposure plans, patient and workplace safety, mitigating workplace injury and more. Only the training provided through CastleBranch will be acceptable annually. Wait for instructions from Experiential Services.	Once completed students will upload all of the Certificates of Completion to their CastleBranch tracker.

<p>HIPAA Training</p>	<p>September 15 of first fall term, and annually thereafter</p>	<p>Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) training is required annually. This training explains HIPAA rights and regulations that healthcare providers are legally required to know and follow.</p> <p>Only the training provided through CastleBranch will be acceptable annually.</p> <p>Wait for instructions from Experiential Services.</p>	<p>Once completed students will upload Certificate of Completion to their CastleBranch tracker.</p>
<p>Professional Liability Insurance</p> <p><i>Annual Cost: \$15**</i></p>	<p>September 15 of first fall term, and annually thereafter</p>	<p>Professional liability insurance, or malpractice insurance, is negotiated by WSU for Health Sciences students each year. Students can choose to find alternate coverage, but it must meet certain thresholds. If alternate coverage is chosen please inquire with Experiential Services before purchase.</p> <p>Information on how to purchase Professional Liability Insurance will be available within CastleBranch.</p>	<p>Order confirmation receipt or certificate of insurance is required that includes the students name, date of purchase, and for external insurance policies the limits of coverage. Students will upload this to CastleBranch.</p>
<p>National Background Check</p>	<p>Students are required to have a national background check as part of their PharmCAS application process. It is also required annually each spring while in the PharmD program.</p>	<p>An annual national background check is required for admissions into the PharmD program; as well as annually thereafter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – PharmCAS admissions background check (via Certiphi): \$70** – First-fourth year spring background checks are required via CastleBranch: costs are included in college fees <p>Students will receive more information about this during the first year of the program from Experiential Services.</p>	<p>PharmCAS admissions background check: Only the background check initiated through PharmCAS and run through Certiphi is acceptable.</p> <p>WSU required annual background check: Only the CastleBranch background check is acceptable.</p>

