

DATE:

TO:

FROM: Cynthia Ulrich, Nurse Practitioner
Director of Health Services
Bluffton University

RE: **Exemption from Required Immunizations**

I have received your request for exemption from Bluffton University's immunization requirements. I am sending you two enclosures, "Policy for Inadequately Immunized Students" and "Application for Exemption from Immunization Requirements". Please read these carefully, sign them, and return them to *Bluffton University Health Center, Marbeck Center 70, 1 University Drive, Bluffton, Ohio 45817-2104*. These forms must be on file before you can attend classes and/or athletic practices. **Please note that medical exemption requests must be signed by a physician and you are still required to complete the TB Questionnaire AND submit the results of a tuberculin skin test to the Health Center IF INDICATED before you can attend classes.**

Thank you.

CU:ars

DATE:

TO:

FROM: Cynthia Ulrich, Nurse Practitioner
Director of Health Services
Bluffton University

RE: **Policy for Inadequately Immunized Students**

For the protection of the community as well as each individual student, it is the policy of Bluffton University to require adequate immunization to measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, and diphtheria. This policy is based on sound scientific evidence. The incidence of serious reactions to vaccines is approximately one case in one million immunizations. The incidence of serious illness, birth defects, and even death from these illnesses is considerably higher.

All of these diseases have been active in Ohio in recent years. The risk of severe complications from these diseases far exceeds the very rare risks of the vaccines used to prevent them. Since you are not adequately immunized to one or more of these diseases, you present a danger to others on campus and in the community.

If an outbreak of any of these diseases occurs in the area, you will have two choices:

- 1) Begin immunization immediately within twenty-four hours of notification and complete the series on schedule.
- 2) Leave Bluffton University for the duration of the outbreak, including a period equal to the incubation period after the last suspected case. This means:
 - a) 14 days after the last case of measles
 - b) 21 days after the last case of rubella

If you show any symptoms suggestive of one of the above-mentioned diseases, you must submit to a physical examination to determine whether or not the disease is present. If diagnosed with the disease, you must leave Bluffton University until all risk of transmitting the disease is gone.

Bluffton University will not be responsible for any costs related to time away from classes. You will be responsible for all missed class work.

This policy does not exempt you from obtaining a skin test for Tuberculosis. The results of the TB test must be forwarded to the Health Center.

I have read and understand this policy.

Signature (Student) Date

Signature (Parent) Date
(if student is less than 18 years of age)

Student Name (Print)