

Campus Health Care – University of Chicago Students

Welcome to the University of Chicago! The Student Care Center (SCC) and the Student Counseling and Resource Service (SCRS) provide your health care on campus, and we look forward to seeing you soon. Please [read the following points carefully](#) and contact us if you have further questions at 773-702-4156 or scimm@uchospitals.edu



Required Immunizations

The State of Illinois [requires students](#) to provide **proof of immunity** to Measles (Rubeola), Mumps, German Measles (Rubella), and Tetanus/Diphtheria. Proof of immunity varies from disease to disease.

Immunization Forms are due to the SCC by:

Fall 2007 admission	September 24, 2007
Winter 2008 admission	January 7, 2008
Spring 2008 admission	March 31, 2008
Summer 2008 admission	June 23, 2008

The enclosed immunization form must be:

1. Completed **in English** by a Health Care Provider.
2. Returned to the Student Care Center.
3. Do not send original immunization booklets/ documents – make a copy & complete attached form.
4. Immunizations forms will only be accepted **mailed or hand-delivered**.

Failure to submit your immunization information properly will result in your being placed on restriction, which **will deny you access to University facilities** and future class enrollments.

Recommended Immunizations

We **strongly** recommend vaccination against three additional vaccine-preventable diseases. Students should discuss these vaccinations with their health care provider and can elect to either receive the vaccines prior to arrival on campus or at the SCC:

- **Meningitis** is a serious infectious disease that may be caused by a variety of bacteria or viruses. One known cause of meningitis is *Neisseria meningitidis* (also called meningococcus). Each year about 1,400-2,800 people will contract meningococcal meningitis in the United States. The risk of infection in non-freshman college students is similar to that in the general population. College freshmen residing in dormitories, however, are at increased risk of this disease compared to other people of the same age.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), a group sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the American College Health Association (ACHA) recommends that **entering college students** living in dormitories or residence halls and non-freshman college students who want to reduce their risk of meningococcal disease be vaccinated against this disease.

Two vaccines are currently available to protect against some types or serogroups of *Neisseria meningitidis*. These vaccines are highly effective against serogroups A, C, Y and W-135, but do not confer 100% protection. The vaccines do not protect against serogroup B. Use of the newly available conjugate vaccine is preferred. If unavailable, the polysaccharide vaccine is considered to be an acceptable alternative.

- **Hepatitis B** virus causes a serious illness that affects the liver. The virus can be transmitted by sexual contact, contaminated needles, and from mother to child. It is estimated that 300,000 persons are infected each year in the United States. The ACIP currently encourages widespread vaccination of susceptible adolescents. The Hepatitis B vaccine is given as a series of three injections at 0, 1-2, and 4-6 months. The series is highly effective and produces a protective response in >90% of recipients.
- **Varicella zoster** virus is responsible for the disease chicken pox. Though often considered a mild childhood illness, chicken pox can be a serious illness particularly among older adolescents and adults. The varicella zoster vaccine provides 70-90% protection against infection for up to 7-10 years after vaccination. Any individual who does not have a reliable history of a chicken pox illness should

consider vaccination or blood testing to see if they are susceptible. The ACIP recommends the varicella vaccine for all susceptible individuals greater than age 13 who are at high risk of getting the disease. College students are considered to be in the high-risk group. The varicella vaccine is given as a series of two injections at least one month apart. There is a small risk of a mild chicken pox like illness developing after vaccination.

Campus Health Services

As a University of Chicago student, you have access to excellent health care on campus as provided by the **Student Health & Wellness Fee** (*billed to your academic account quarterly*). **The health fee is not medical insurance**, but provides students (and eligible dependents) general medical and mental health care at the:

- **Student Care Center (SCC):** primary medical care & health education outreach.
<http://scc.uchicago.edu>
- **Student Counseling & Resource Service (SCRS):** mental health care & academic skills counseling.
<http://counseling.uchicago.edu>

Both the SCC and SCRS are part of The University of Chicago Hospitals, named one of the best hospitals in America. If you have a chronic medical condition, you should meet and establish a relationship with a SCC primary care provider when you arrive on campus. If you are currently taking any medications (e.g. chronic illness, mental health, birth control), get a copy of your prescription to bring with you.

Health Insurance

All students are required to have health insurance coverage (*this is not the Student Health & Wellness Fee*). You must register your health insurance coverage on-line at <https://registrar.uchicago.edu/health/>. You can choose to:

- Enroll in The University of Chicago student health insurance plan (*information will be mailed to all students*), or
- Show that you have health insurance coverage (e.g. work, parents, spouse/partner) comparable to the University-sponsored plan.

Failure to register your insurance coverage with the University Registrar **will result in automatic enrollment** in the University's Student Health Insurance Plan.

This is a binding policy from September 1, 2007 until August 31, 2008, and it is not possible to change ones insurance election after the deadline has passed.

Further details are on-line at::

http://www.chickering.com/stu_conn/student_connection.aspx?group_number=724543.

Your on-line insurance waiver must be completed by the following dates or you will be automatically enrolled in the University insurance plan:

Fall 2007 admission	October 5, 2007
Winter 2008 admission	January 11, 2008
Spring 2008 admission	April 11, 2008
Summer 2008 admission	July 3, 2008

Before coming to campus, you should familiarize yourself with your insurance coverage and understand any restrictions, deductibles and co-payments. Only your insurance representative, not SCC and SCRS health providers, can discuss your insurance coverage with you. Services, such as **laboratory testing, radiology, hospitalization, specialist visits, and emergency room care**, are not covered by the Student Health & Wellness Fee and **will be billed to your insurance**. Finally, **bring** a copy of your **insurance card information to campus** and to your first appointment with a SCC or SCRS provider.