Dartmouth
GEISEL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Influenza Waiver Policy

Summary of Purpose

Medical students are required to request a waiver to bypass receiving the mandatory annual influenza vaccine at preceptor sites like Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and its affiliates.

Scope and Applicability

This policy applies to all Geisel medical students.

Definitions

None.

Policy Statement

- Students may apply for waivers for influenza vaccinations per the protocol for each separate clinical setting.
- At Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) the Occupational Medicine Office reviews the influenza waiver application and will provide a decision on your application.
- Students are required to abide by the waiver decisions made by DHMC Occupational Medicine.
- These waivers are rare and only granted for medical indications and documented religious reasons. Contact their office directly for this form.
- Students denied waivers are required to get the influenza vaccination. For those receiving waivers the wearing of masks and/or other restrictions noted by the clinical partner would be mandated.
- A student waiver granted from Dartmouth Hitchcock would only apply to Dartmouth Hitchcock and not to other clinical settings.

- It is the responsibility of the student to apply for waivers in time for decisions and attendance in their assigned curriculum.

Procedure

1. Contact the Office of Occupational Medicine for the Influenza Waiver Form.
2. Complete the Form and return it to the Office of Occupational Medicine.
3. The Office of Occupational Medicine will decide on the application status and will notify the student of the decision.
4. If approved, the student must notify the Office of Pre-Clerkship Education and/or the Office of Clinical Education by sending a copy of the approved waiver form and/or letter from the Office of Occupational Medicine to the appropriate Office Director.

LCME Standard

Standard 12.7 – Immunization Requirements and Monitoring
A medical school follows accepted guidelines in determining immunization requirements for its medical students and monitors students' compliance with those requirements.

Related Information: Documents, Policies, Links, Etc.

DHMC Office of Occupational Medicine

Policy Administration

Policy Number:	UME-OSL-0019		
Reviewed By:	Associate Dean, Student Life	**Effective Date:**	December 20, 2016
Approved By:	Office of Student Life	**Last Date Approved:**	June 12, 2018

Policy Contact Information

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Office of Occupational Medicine

History

Date	History
December 20, 2016	Policy created and put into effect.
June 12, 2018	Policy was reviewed and revised.
June 1, 2019	Policy was reviewed.
October 16, 2024	Policy reviewed and updated template

Background

None.