

GUIDE TO MEETING PEP IMMUNISATION & SCREENING REQUIREMENTS

Dear Student,

The University is required to comply with Commonwealth and State legislation and regulations to ensure the safety of students and the public by ensuring that as a student on clinical placement, you are “safe to practice” as well as “safe in practice”. In accordance with Student Placement Agreements, students must meet the immunisation and screening requirements of the health care organisations at which they may attend Professional Experience Placement (PEP) during their degree. As you begin your career in health, it is important that you take the time to ensure this compliance requirement is addressed as soon as possible.

Please access information about the immunisation and screening requirements on the College of Health and Medicine’s PEP website. Here you will also find a short video explaining what to do regarding immunisation compliance. The way in which you demonstrate your compliance with the University of Tasmania’s immunisation and screening requirements is through completion of the [Tasmanian Student Immunisation Record](#) (Tasmanian students) or the [NSW Vaccination Record](#) (NSW students). This record must be completed by a health care provider and provides information about vaccinations / screenings you have had. All students must also complete other relevant TAS or NSW specific forms.

Australian Students

To make the completion of your Tasmanian Student Immunisation Record/NSW Vaccination Record as streamlined as possible, prior to visiting your health care provider, download your **Medicare Immunisation History Statement**. This can be obtained by logging on to [myGov](#) and following the links to your Medicare Online Account. There you can download/print out your statement. Upload this record to InPlace and the PEP team will provide you with feedback about what further action is required to meet the compliance requirements.

Other possible sources of this information include;

- **Child Health Record/Baby Book** - Different states of Australia will have different coloured records eg “blue books”.
- **Local council Certificate of Immunisation**. In Tasmania councils are responsible for the organisation and running of school-based immunisation programs and public immunisation clinics. To obtain this certificate you should ring the relevant council and request this document.
- **Current & past GP immunisation records**. You should telephone your past and current GP practices and request a record of the immunisations that you had while attending that practice.

Once you have gathered this information, make an appointment to see your health care provider to have your immunisation information documented on your Tasmanian Student Immunisation Record/NSW Vaccination Record Card. At this appointment your health care provider should also order any blood tests that are required and arrange any additional vaccines that you may need. Please note that for some vaccines your health care provider will write a prescription and you will need to get this filled at a pharmacy and take it back to your health care provider for administration. Vaccines are extremely temperature sensitive and should be transferred from the pharmacy to your health care provider’s vaccine fridge as quickly as possible.

International Students

It is strongly recommended that overseas students source vaccination and screening records from their home country that are legible in English, or that can be translated to English. You should source childhood and adolescent vaccination records from any possible sources before arrival in Australia. Visit your doctor as soon as you have accepted your university offer, as there may be blood tests and additional vaccines that you require prior to commencing the course. This will leave adequate time for any follow-up required and for all information to be documented on your Tasmanian Student Immunisation Record/NSW Vaccination Record Card. It will be much easier to have your immunisation record completed in your home country before arriving in Australia due to the delays in finding a local doctor to complete the immunisation record and the cost associated with attending the doctor several times to have your immunisation record completed. Please access information about the immunisation and screening requirements on the College of Health and Medicine's PEP website - [Immunisation Requirements](#).

International Students Please Note;

- If you undergo a TB screening blood test prior to arrival in Australia eg for visa purposes, it is recommended that you request a copy of the report as it may negate the need for further testing
- Please be aware that you will require an annual influenza vaccine, but as the formulation of this vaccine can vary from country to country, you will require an Australian administered vaccine to be eligible for attendance at PEP during the flu season (June to September each year)
- Once you arrive in Australia, see [this link](#) for advice about how to register for an Individual Health Identifier (so that you can have your COVID-19 vaccines entered onto a Medicare certificate). See [this link](#) for advice about how to have your internationally administered COVID-19 vaccines entered onto your Medicare Certificate. The only acceptable COVID-19 vaccine record for UTas PEP is that Medicare Immunisation History Statement.

What's next for all students?

Once you have obtained the relevant information and documentation, upload the scanned documents (combined into a single PDF please) to InPlace. You should then review InPlace regularly (at least weekly) for any advice from the PEP team until full immunisation compliance is achieved.

For any questions or information about the UTas PEP Immunisation and Screening Requirements please contact:

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