

HEALTH POLICY

The Nursing Program requires a physical examination report as a part of the admission procedure. In addition to the physical examination the following are required:

1. Yearly PPD tuberculin test. If the test is positive, a chest x-ray is required. Persons who have had a positive PPD test once should not repeat the test. The usual routine for a person with a positive skin test is to be referred to a physician for a chest x-ray and consideration for isoniazid prophylaxis. Yearly chest x-rays are not necessary and will not routinely be done. Therefore after evaluation for a positive T.B. test, no further screening is necessary for T.B.
2. A positive rubella titer or evidence of rubella immunization. Before receiving a rubella immunization have a rubella titer drawn to see whether it is necessary. **Do not** receive rubella immunization unless you have a negative (non-immune) titer and are not pregnant and will not get pregnant for three (3) months after immunization.
3. If born after 1956, evidence of rubeola immunity is required and may be documented by either a second MMR (if 1st MMR done) or a rubeola titer. Those born before 1957 are considered immune.
4. Hepatitis B vaccine series or a signed declination. Because of clinical arrangements with health care facilities, students admitted into the Nursing Program are **strongly** encouraged to have completed the first dose of the Hepatitis B vaccine series prior to beginning the program and follow-up with completing the series of vaccinations at the recommended schedule. Students electing not to be vaccinated are **required** to sign a waiver indicating their understanding of the risks involved.
5. Tetanus immunization. A tetanus immunization is needed every ten years as a minimum.
6. Varicella (chicken pox) immunization is not currently required but some agencies are gathering data regarding students' status, e.g., contracted disease, immunization, & unknown. A dated statement of relevant information must be submitted.
7. Either influenza vaccine or a signed declination.

The above items are required by many of our cooperating clinical agencies. Students must have documented proof of these items prior to field experience. **Some clinical agencies may require further verification of health status.** Students may not be at a field experience site without having **all** the needed documentation on file in the nursing office. Some of the above immunizations are available at the NSU Student Health Center at little cost for currently enrolled NSU students.