

**HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY**  
**THE PREMIER LIFE SKILLS UNIVERSITY**

**Master of Physician Assistant Studies**

## Policy - Student Health

**Origin Date:** February 20, 2014

**Last Evaluated:** April 2026

**Responsible Party:** Program Director

**Minimum Review Frequency:** Annually

**Approving Body:** Principal Faculty

**MPAS Associated Forms:**

Verification of Health Information and Immunization Form  
Immunization Release of Information Form  
Consent to Treat Form  
HIPAA Consent Form  
Vaccination Medical Exemption Form  
Vaccination Religious Exemption Form

**ARC-PA Associated Standards:**

- **A1.04** – The sponsoring institution *must* provide academic support and *student services* to PA students that are *equivalent* to those services provided to other *comparable* students of the institution.
- **A3.06** – The program publishes, makes *readily available*, and consistently applies policies that preclude the program director, medical director, and principal faculty from participating as health care providers for students in the program, except in emergency situations.
- **A3.09** – The program publishes, makes readily available to current and prospective students, and consistently applies policies based on current CDC health professionals’ recommendations and applicable state or country mandates for:
  - a) minimum immunization and health screening of students
  - b) international travel (for programs offering international curricular components)
- **A3.17** – Unauthorized people, including PA students, do not have access to academic records or confidential information of other students or faculty.
- **A3.18** – Student health records are confidential and not accessible to or reviewed by program faculty or staff except for immunization and screening results, which may be maintained and released with the student’s written permission.

## Background and Purpose

The purpose of this document is to define policies, procedures, and availability of health services for students enrolled in the physician assistant program.

## Policy Statement

1. All students **MUST** provide proof of health insurance prior to matriculation. Each student's personal health insurance policy must remain active throughout their participation in the program.
2. Students are financially responsible for the cost of all health care services they may require while enrolled in the program, including any health care services required as a result of their participation in scheduled program activities (e.g., TB testing, immunizations, treatment of injuries, pathogen exposure evaluation and treatment).
3. The following health requirements are mandatory prior to any experiential education course at off-site facilities. The immunization requirements must be completed in their entirety within the first 30 days post matriculation, or the student will be withdrawn from classes without credit.
  - **Tuberculosis:** One of the following completed within the past 12 months is required:
    - 2-step TB skin test (administered 1-3 weeks apart)
    - OR
    - QuantiFERON Gold blood test (lab report required)
    - OR
    - If positive results, submit a clear chest x-ray (lab report required)
  - **Immunizations:** Students must be current on all required immunizations. Either record of immunization or serologic proof of immunity must be provided for all listed conditions recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for health care personnel, to include, but may not be limited to:
    - Hepatitis B: BOTH of the following are required:
      - 3 vaccinations
      - AND
      - A positive antibody titer after 6-8 weeks (lab report required)
 If a student's titer was negative or equivocal, the student must repeat the series and provide a 2nd titer.
    - Measles, Mumps & Rubella (MMR): One of the following is required:
      - 2 vaccinations: The first vaccination **MUST** be administered **AFTER** the age of 1 regardless of vaccination type. Vaccinations can be a combined MMR vaccination; however, if individualized vaccinations are submitted you **MUST** submit 2 vaccinations for Mumps and Measles and 1 vaccination for Rubella
      - OR
      - Positive antibody titer (lab report required) for all 3 components. If the student's titer was negative or equivocal, they must receive 1 booster vaccine (administered after the initial titer) and provide a 2nd titer after 6-8 weeks.
    - Varicella: One of the following is required:
      - 2 vaccinations
      - OR
      - Positive antibody titer (lab report required). If the titer was negative or equivocal, the series must be repeated.
    - Tdap (Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis): One of the following is required:
      - Documentation of a Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis) vaccination administered within the past 10 years
      - OR
      - Documentation of a Tdap vaccination administered from any time **AND** a Td (Tetanus & Diphtheria) booster administered within the past 10 years. Renewal will be set for 10 years from the most recent vaccination. Upon renewal, a Td booster is required.
    - Influenza: Students will be required to obtain influenza immunization annually while enrolled in the program.

- Meningococcal: Documentation of completion of one or two vaccinations, depending upon the vaccine type selected, is recommended.
  - **Other Immunizations**: Students may occasionally be involved in patient care activities that require additional immunizations or disease prophylaxis (e.g., international rotations). It is the responsibility of the student to consult with the PD/DCE to determine if any additional precautions are necessary.
  - **COVID-19 Vaccine**: High Point University strongly encourages, but does not require, students to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine. Students, without an approved exemption, who choose not to receive this vaccine must understand that they may not be allowed to participate in Supervised Clinical Practice Experiences, thus delaying or preventing graduation, as the vaccine is required by many clinical sites.
  - **Vaccine Exemptions**: Students with underlying health conditions or sincerely held religious beliefs may request exemption from required vaccines and the COVID-19 vaccine by submitting either the Vaccine Medical Exemption form or the Vaccine Religious Exemption form to the Department Chair for consideration. Students who are granted vaccine exemptions by the program must understand that these exemptions may not be accepted or approved by clinical sites which may result in an inability to participate in certain Supervised Clinical Practice Experiences, thus delaying or preventing graduation.
4. Historical documentation without primary source evidence of tuberculosis screening, immunizations and/or serologic proof of immunity will not satisfy the program's documentation requirements.
    - The following qualify as legitimate proof of immunization/TB testing status:
      - Copies of the applicant's medical record(s) on which administration and results of tuberculosis screening data is recorded.
      - Copies of the applicant's medical record(s) on which administration of the immunization series is documented by the immunization provider (including immunization cards signed by the administering health care professional/agency).
      - Copies of the laboratory report(s) documenting results of serologic testing for immunity (antibody test results).
      - Copies of the applicant's medical record(s) or a letter from the applicant's health care provider documenting immunization non-conversion and explaining the process by which that conclusion was reached.
  5. Immunization records and approved exemptions must be submitted to the EXXAT APPROVE compliance tracking system, **NOT to the Department of Physician Assistant Studies**.
  6. The PA program will access EXXAT APPROVE to ensure completion of required immunizations and TB screening of all students.
  7. Students are required to monitor their EXXAT APPROVE account to ensure that all requirements are kept up to date.
  8. Program Director, principal program faculty, medical director, or program staff **WILL NOT** participate as health care providers for students enrolled in the program and **WILL NOT** have access to any student health information other than that defined in this policy.

## Student Insurance through High Point University

Student Health Insurance is required of all health professions students. Students without primary health insurance may purchase a health insurance plan offered by High Point University which is provided according to the schedule below:

- The university-offered medical insurance policy is effective from August 1st through July 31st. This annual policy will be billed in part on the Fall tuition statement and the remainder on the Spring tuition statement.
- Programs like the MPAS program that begin in the summer are charged per month until August 1st at which time the students are switched to the annual policy
- In Year 3, HPU will offer coverage from August 1st through graduation day on a daily basis.

Students may waive the university-provided medical insurance with proof of other comparable insurance prior to the start of the academic year. Student Medical Insurance rates are reviewed annually and rates are subject to change. For more information on the university provided medical coverage, please visit [Office of Student Accounts website](#).

#### ELECTING TO PURCHASE THE STUDENT HEALTH PLAN

Students enrolled in Physician Assistant Studies must complete a paper waiver form in order to accept participation or to waive their participation in the student health insurance plan offered through High Point University. Paper waiver forms can be found in the Graduate -Operations Office, Office of Student Accounts or by accessing the form online at:

<http://www.highpoint.edu/studentaccounts/student-insurance/>

**Approved By:** Principal Faculty

#### **Modified**

February 5, 2015

April 12, 2016: updated to be consistent with revised Health Information and Immunization forms (9.16.15)

April 2017, April 2018,

April 2020: Updated ARC-PA Standards

April 2021

April 2022: Updated COVID-19 vaccine guidelines

April 2024: Updated Student Health Insurance information

January 2025: Removed CastleBranch as program vendor and replaced with EXXAT APPROVE; Updated vaccine exemption process; Added Meningococcal vaccine as a recommended vaccine

**Next Review:** Spring 2027