



Dear New Goldman School of Dental Medicine Student:

Welcome to Boston University! We look forward to seeing you on campus.

In order to ensure the health of the entire student community and of those in the clinical setting, we require that you take several health related actions **prior to arriving on campus:**

1. Obtain a physical examination by your doctor or health care provider prior to arriving on campus. **Make this appointment as soon as possible to avoid delays.** You must demonstrate compliance with the immunization requirements, and may need to begin a series of inoculations now.
2. Complete the **“HEALTH HISTORY AND PHYSICAL EXAMINATION REPORT (CLINICAL).”** Both you and your doctor or health care provider have specific portions of the form that need to be completed. To indicate your school on the form, check “GSDM” (Goldman School of Dental Medicine).
3. Massachusetts state law requires that all dental students be immunized against a number of common transmissible diseases (see form). Your doctor or health care provider is required to complete our form. This ensures that you have received all of the correct immunizations. Please do not send a copy of your personal immunization records (home shot book).
4. **Make a copy of the completed report** for your records before you mail your health information to Boston University. Clinical rotations or employers will require that you have a copy of this information in many circumstances.

5. **Mail the form by the deadline to:**

Boston University
Student Health Services
881 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215 USA

Deadline:
Postdoctoral programs: JUNE 1
Predoctoral (DMD/AS): JUNE 30
September Postdocs: AUGUST 1

Do **not** send the form to the dental school. The form contains your confidential medical information that must be submitted to Student Health Services.

Your registration will be blocked and you will not be able to attend class if your immunization records are incomplete. You must obtain your physical examination PRIOR to the start of your program. Student health insurance does not apply to pre-matriculation examinations.

Student Health Services is here to help to meet your health care needs while you are at Boston University. Please consider us your primary doctors while you are on campus. Your help with the above documentation helps us to provide high quality care.

Sincerely,

David R. McBride, MD
Director, Boston University Student Health Services

Please visit our website at www.bu.edu/shs to see our list of services.

For Goldman School of Dental Medicine information for incoming students, please visit the New Students pages under Admissions at <http://dentalschool.bu.edu/admissions/newstudents/index.html> .

Pre-matriculation Information and Health Requirements

Students enrolling at Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine must meet complete pre-matriculation health requirements, including a pre-matriculation physical examination and required immunizations. The required serologic proof of immunity or school or physician records of vaccination cannot be waived, except if the student provides written documentation that meets the state's standards for medical or religious exemption, as set forth in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 76, section 15. Students must provide the required documentation of immunizations and titers to Boston University Student Health Services. Please view detailed information below:

1. **Physical Examination:** A comprehensive physical examination must be performed within the 12 months prior to matriculation by a licensed physician or other primary health care provider. Completion of the physical examination should be documented on the health form, which is provided to all accepted dental students by the Office of Admissions.
2. **Immunizations:** Immunization requirements are based on, but are not limited to, Boston Medical Center and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health regulations (105 CMR 220.600). Compliance with the Hepatitis B, Tetanus, Measles, Mumps, and Rubella immunization requirements cannot be waived, except if the student provides documentation that meets the state standards for medical or religious exemption.

The student's primary health care provider should provide immunizations or documentation of titers prior to matriculation. The completed Boston University Health History and Physical Examination Report (Clinical) must be submitted to Boston University Student Health Services a month prior to attendance. Student health insurance does not apply to pre-matriculation services. For students who have begun but not completed the series of immunizations at the time of enrollment, Boston University Student Health Services is available to provide the required immunizations for a fee after the student matriculates. **Please make a copy of all of your health records prior to sending them to Boston University Student Health Services. The deadline for submission of the completed Health History and Physical Examination Report (Clinical) is a month before your program orientation start date.**

A. Hepatitis B recombinant vaccine:

The basic hepatitis B vaccine series consists of three inoculations. The second is given one month after the first, and the third five months after the second. If there is insufficient time to complete the series at these intervals before immunity is required, the inoculations may be given at one month intervals. In either case, a Hepatitis B surface antibody (HBsAb) titer must be performed four to six weeks after the third inoculation. If this test does not demonstrate a protective HbsAb titer (10 IU or greater), additional inoculations may be required. Any student who is unable to demonstrate a protective HBsAb titer must be evaluated at Student Health Services to determine whether the student needs additional inoculations, is a hepatitis B carrier, or may be a true vaccine non-responder.

B. MMR:

Documentation of serologic proof of immunity is acceptable for measles, mumps, and rubella.

Two doses of live measles vaccine given at least one month apart beginning at or after 12 months of age.

C. Tetanus Diphtheria Vaccine:

A booster of tetanus/diphtheria toxoid (Td) must be documented within the last 10 years, or tetanus diphtheria acellular pertussis (Tdap).

D. Varicella zoster live-virus vaccine:

Two doses 4-8 weeks apart are indicated if there is no history of varicella (chicken pox) and no serologic proof of immunity.

E. Meningococcal Vaccine:

All matriculating students who will be living in university housing are required to provide documentation of receipt of one dose of meningococcal vaccine within 5 years or qualify for one of the exemptions to immunization, unless the student provides a signed waiver of vaccine or otherwise qualifies for one of the exemptions specified in the Massachusetts law. Menactra is recommended as it protects for a longer period of time. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has developed a waiver stating

that the student has received information about the dangers of meningococcal disease, reviewed the information provided and elected to decline the vaccine (waiver exemption). If you are unable to get the vaccine prior to arriving you may be able to receive it at Student Health Services for a fee. You will need to sign the waiver if you arrive and have not had the vaccine. You may elect to get it at anytime thereafter. The information sheet and waiver is included in the health form.

F. Tuberculosis skin test:

A baseline two step tuberculosis skin test with purified protein derivative [PPD] must be performed within twelve months prior to matriculation. The skin tests should be 1-2 weeks apart. In addition, each student must be tested on an annual basis. Written documentation from a private physician, employer, or the military is also acceptable if the test falls within one year of matriculation.

If a student tests positive or has had a positive PPD skin test in the past, he/she will need to provide evidence of an evaluation for tuberculosis including a chest radiograph report and a record of having been evaluated by a professional with expertise in TB and any prophylactic treatment. Any student with a documented positive tuberculosis skin test should not repeat the test, but will be screened annually for symptoms of tuberculosis.

Students who fail to complete all of these requirements prior to matriculation may be restricted in academic and clinical activities until they have completed the required immunizations and PPD tests, demonstrated the required titers, and provided the necessary documentation to Student Health Services.

General Statement Regarding Health Care for Dental Students:

Each dental student is strongly encouraged to establish a relationship with and utilize the services of a primary care physician for comprehensive health care as well as for the care of acute illness. Dental students may obtain medical care at the Student Health Services at the Boston University Charles River Campus, located at 881 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Telephone (617) 353-3575, website www.bu.edu/shs .