Welch College Student Immunization and Tuberculosis Screening Requirements for Traditional (Dorm & Commuter) Students

Revised October 2026

Welch College establishes student immunization and health-screening requirements in accordance with Tennessee state law and commonly accepted standards among Tennessee public and private colleges.

Required Immunizations

- *MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella):* Two doses required
- *Varicella (Chickenpox):* Proof of prior disease *or* documentation of two doses
- *Meningococcal ACWY:* One dose administered on or after the 16th birthday. Required for students living in the residence halls.

Recommended Immunizations

- *Tdap/Td* (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis): A booster within the past 10 years is recommended.*
- *Hepatitis B.**

Tuberculosis (TB) Screening

All students must answer the following TB screening questions:

- ☐ Have you ever had close contact with a person known or suspected to have active TB disease?
- ☐ Were you born in, or have you lived, worked, or visited for more than one month in a country with a high incidence of TB (e.g., countries in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America, or the Caribbean)?
- ☐ Have you ever lived, worked, or volunteered in a correctional facility (prison/jail), long-term care facility, hospital, or homeless shelter?
- ☐ Have you ever been a member of a group that has an increased incidence of TB (e.g., medically underserved, user of drugs or alcohol)?
- ☐ Do you have a cough lasting 3 weeks or longer, chest pain, coughing up blood, fever for >2 weeks, night sweats, or unexplained weight loss?

Students who answer "yes" to any screening question may be required to complete additional TB evaluation, such as a TB blood test (IGRA) or skin test (PPD), prior to enrollment.

Religious and Medical Exemptions

In accordance with Tennessee law, students may request:

- *Religious exemptions* using the State of Tennessee Religious Exemption Form ED-5379
- *Medical exemptions* with documentation from a licensed healthcare provider

* Welch College does not require *Tdap* or *Hepatitis B* immunizations for students pursuing the A.S. in Biology. However, partner institutions offering the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) program may impose separate immunization requirements for admission or clinical placement. Students should review the requirements of the institution where they plan to complete their nursing program.