TO:  College/University Health Administrators

FROM:  Wendy Holmes, RN, Head
       Immunization Branch

SUBJECT:  2018-2019 Annual Immunization Report for College Students

The purpose of this memo is to notify college and university health administrators of the 2018 annual immunization reporting requirements. North Carolina immunization law (G.S. 130A-155.1.) requires all colleges and universities to submit an annual immunization report on new undergraduate and graduate students who reside on campus or who have registered for four (4) or more traditional credit hours. The purpose of this report is to ensure that all students enrolled in your institutions are protected against vaccine-preventable diseases and to determine the number of students who meet state immunization requirements.

The immunization rules state that colleges and universities must notify, as soon as possible, all students who do not meet the minimum immunization requirements. The student shall have a grace period of 30 calendar days from the date of the student's first registration to obtain the required immunization. If immunization requires a series of doses and the period necessary to give the vaccine at standard intervals extends beyond the date of the first registration, the student shall be allowed to attend the college or university upon written certification by a physician that the standard series is in progress. The physician shall state the time needed to complete the series. Due to the impacts of Hurricane Florence, which displaced individuals, closed schools, colleges and medical provider offices, and limited access to immunizations, the Governor issued an Executive Order on September 26, 2018, that extended the deadline for immunization reporting with the temporary suspension of immunization requirements by the State Health Director. Students who were in process of obtaining the required immunizations at the time of this suspension were provided additional time to obtain the required immunization(s) and the reporting deadline was extended for colleges and universities to December 1, 2018.


Reports will not be mailed to individual institutions. Instructions are available online, including a copy of the report and a report worksheet to assist with compiling data. To access these documents, please go to https://surveygizmolibrary.s3.amazonaws.com/library/12181/CollegeOnlineSummaryReport_PDF.pdf
https://surveygizmolibrary.s3.amazonaws.com/library/12181/CollegeSurveyInstructions_PDF.pdf

Vaccination requirements for individuals entering college can be found on the Immunization Branch website at http://www.immunize.nc.gov/schools/collegesuniversities.htm.

Please refer to our website for more information on the suspended immunization requirements https://www.imunize.nc.gov/schools/annualimmunizationreports.htm
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT ONLINE REPORTING:

Q: What if I cannot access the webpage to enter the immunization report?

A: If you are not directed to the website to access the immunization school summary report, then you should check with your IT support to see if the webpage is blocked and if they can allow you access. You may also want to clear your web browser and delete cookies. If it continues to be a problem, and you cannot access the reporting link, please contact us at immunization.reports@dhhs.nc.gov.

Q. What if I have no new undergraduate or graduate students enrolled at my school?

A: Fill out the online summary report form and enter “0” for question 16.

Q. What if a student has not met the immunization requirements 30 days after school started?

A: The student shall have 30 calendar days from the date of the student's first registration to obtain the required immunization. If immunization requires a series of doses and the period necessary to give the vaccine at standard intervals extends beyond the date of the first registration, the student shall be allowed to attend the college or university upon written certification by a physician that the standard series is in progress. The physician shall state the time period needed to complete the series. Upon termination of this time period, the college or university shall not permit the student to continue in attendance unless the required immunization has been obtained. A temporary suspension to the immunization rules went into effect on September 21 through November 1, 2018. Please refer to our website for additional information.

Q. I made an error on my report. What do I do?

A: Please do not resubmit your college report. Contact Shannon Draper at (919)-707-5555 or email at Shannon.draper@dhhs.nc.gov for assistance in correcting the report.

cc: IMT
    Regional Immunization Consultants
    Ann Nichols