POLICY: Immunizations and Other Clearance Requirements

Policy area: Doctor of Dental Surgery Program and Internationally Trained Dentists Program	**Policy number:** UDE 1.5
Responsible committee: Undergraduate Dental Education	**Page numbers:** 1-2
Effective date: September 1, 2023	
Approval date: August 28, 2023	**Approved by:** Executive Committee
Approval date: September 19, 2023	**Approved by:** Dentistry Council
Approval date: October 6, 2023	**Approved by:** Joint Schulich Council/ECSC
Date of last review:	**Date of next scheduled review:** August 2024
Related policy: 1. Blood Borne Pathogens Policy	

1. **PURPOSE**

   The Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) Program and Internationally Trained Dentists (ITD) Program, at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University must pass all immunization, first aid, and police vulnerable sector check clearance requirements annually at the time of admission and throughout the program.

   Immunizations are an essential part of infection prevention and control, and dental students are required to provide proof of immunizations via the Synergy Verified platform, as well as upload proof of all other clearance requirements. Those students who do not comply with this policy may be excluded from non-clinical and clinical dental learning.

2. **SCOPE**

   This policy applies to dentistry students and academic leaders responsible for decision making following a student not passing one or more clearance requirements.

3. **DEFINITIONS**

   Synergy Gateway Verified Platform: Verified has gained widespread adoption within the Canadian post-secondary education sector as the go-to solution for managing their students' clinical and field placement programs.

   Medical requirements: Tuberculosis (Mantoux), Varicella, Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR), Pertussis, Tetanus/Diphtheria, Polio, Hepatitis B, HIV, Hepatitis C, Influenza, and COVID-19.

   Non-medical requirements: Basic cardiac life support and first aid certification (CPR Level HCP), and police vulnerable sector check.

4. **PROCESS**

    4.1 Learner Experience Office (LEO): The staff in LEO email the dental students in each year of study with a list of immunizations and other clearance requirements, including deadlines. The LEO staff and Manager of Dental Education monitor the Synergy Gateway Verified platform to ensure students have submitted all clearance requirements by the deadline(s).

    4.2 New students: New students to the program must submit proof of the medical and non-medical requirements. Information about these requirements is located on the LEO website under [Immunizations, First Aid, and Police Records.](#)

    4.3 Returning students: Returning students in each year of study are required to obtain and submit updated immunization records by the posted deadlines and requirements are located on the LEO website under [Immunizations, First Aid, and Police Records](#).

    4.4 Submission of mandated requirements: Learners who fail to submit mandated clearance requirement records by the stated deadline(s) will be suspended from program learning until proof of clearance is received. Persistent failure to meet deadlines for annual clearance requirements may be viewed as a professionalism breach.

NOTE: Further questions about clearance requirements are to be directed to LEO (Learner.Experience@schulich.uwo.ca).