HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER

AT BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

Request for Exemption Form for Required Vaccines

In accordance with the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control, the American College Health Association, and the Pennsylvania Department of Health and, as set forth below, in conformity with Pennsylvania law, Bryn Mawr College requires the vaccines below, except when an exemption is granted due to a bona fide medical or religious exemption.

All exemption requests must be in writing, explaining the basis for the request (medical or religious) and documented by:

- For medical exemptions: a written statement by a physician or physician's designee that immunization may be detrimental to the health of the person seeking exemption. Should the physician determine that immunization is no longer detrimental, the exemption will no longer apply and the student must be immunized. For Varicella; Measles, Mumps, Rubella; and Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis vaccines, an exemption may also be granted for those proving immunity via antibody testing and/or medical confirmation of immunity by a physician/physician's designee; or
- For religious exemptions: a written statement by the student (or, if under 18, by the student's parent or guardian), explaining the objection to the immunization on religious grounds, or based on a strong moral or ethical conviction similar to a religious belief.

Please mark for which of the following vaccines you are requesting an exemption:

Varicella (two doses)

Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR or Measles, Mumps, Rubella single series) (two doses)

Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (two doses)

Meningitis AYCW

In 2002, the Pennsylvania College and University Student Vaccination Act passed, requiring all students residing in college or university-owned housing to have at least one dose of the meningococcal conjugate vaccine. This vaccine is highly effective at preventing infection of meningitis bacteria serotypes A,C,Y and W. It is important to know that there are two types of "meningococcal" or meningitis vaccines. One is the PA state required meningococcal conjugate vaccine, which is recommended to be given to those 11-12 years old with a booster dose recommended at age 16. This vaccine does not protect against meningococcal B, which is the second type of meningitis that has been observed recently at colleges and universities. Teens and young adults are also encouraged (but not

required) to receive the meningococcal B vaccine. Both vaccines are covered by insurance. All meningitis bacteria can cause illness. It spreads easily through coughing and sneezing and sharing cups and eating utensils. Common symptoms include high fever, headache, stiff neck, nausea, vomiting, sensitivity to light and confusion. In rare instances, it may lead to permanent disability and even death. College students, especially those living in residence halls, are more prone to contracting the disease because of their proximity to each other on a regular basis. While no vaccine protects against disease 100% of the time, the Meningitis ACYW vaccine and the Meningitis B vaccines both protect most people from becoming ill with the Commonwealth meningitis caused by meningitis A, C, Y, and W and meningitis B. After careful consideration, students may decline vaccination. If a student waiving vaccination is under the age of 18, the student and the parent or guardian must sign a waiver (below) declining the vaccine after reviewing the information regarding the disease.

□ COVID-19

Bryn Mawr College requires all faculty, staff, and students to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 with either of the FDA or WHO-approved vaccines accepted by the CDC as sufficient to protect against severe disease. Should the College grant an exemption from COVID vaccination, individuals who are not vaccinated may be required to engage in testing and mitigation practices (such as masking and quarantining), as determined by the College to be appropriate for the safety of the campus community, based upon the advice of medical professionals and/or governmental recommendations.

WAIVER:

In requesting the exemption(s) from immunization/vaccination, above, I agree that I have read and understand the vaccine information provided above, and have done my own independent research, and I understand the risks of declining the above-referenced vaccinations, which have proved to be highly effective at preventing Varicella, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis, common forms of Meningitis (AYCW and B), and COVID-19, all of which can spread quickly among college students, who are living and studying in a communal setting. These risks include rapid illness, disability, and even death. I understand that I/my child may be asked to leave campus if the Pennsylvania Department of Health and/or the Montgomery County Health Department of Pennsylvania requires that unvaccinated persons be separated from campus in the event of an outbreak on campus. Although I am declining vaccination at this time, I do so knowing that I may receive the vaccine through local retail pharmacies at any time in the future.

I hereby confirm that I have specific, documented religious beliefs or medical reasons to waive vaccination.

Printed name of student

Signature of parent or guardian if under 18 years of age