Proof of Bacterial Meningitis Vaccination Required for Spring 2012

Beginning with the Spring 2012 semester, a new state law requires all students entering institutions of higher education show evidence of receiving a bacterial meningitis vaccination or booster dose during the five year period prior to enrollment and not less than 10 days before the first day of the semester. Entering students include transfer students from other colleges and returning or continuing students who have had a break in enrollment of at least one fall or spring semester.

The law allows for exceptions for:
- Students 30 years of age or older
- Students who are enrolled only in online or other distance learning courses
- Students who submit an affidavit or a certificate signed by a physician who is duly registered and licensed to practice medicine in the United States, in which it is stated that, in the physician's opinion, the vaccination required would be injurious to the health and well-being of the student
- Students who submit an affidavit signed by the student stating that the student declines the vaccination for bacterial meningitis for reasons of conscience, including religious belief. A conscientious exemption form ("Affidavit Request for Exemption from Immunizations for Reasons of Conscience") from the Texas Department of State Health Services must be used. Allow several weeks to submit and have form approved by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

To get the vaccine, check with your family doctor or local public health department. Be sure to get your vaccine early as you will need to submit proof of immunization before the start of classes to allow for verification time. This process is expected to take at least 2-3 days but it could be longer.

Coastal Bend College (CBC) will be using Magnus Health SMR (Student Medical Record) an electronic system for tracking and storing the bacterial meningitis immunizations and exemptions. Magnus is used by more than 900 schools for managing school health records. We are adopting this system because it 1) reduces the future burden of paperwork on our students, 2) provides HIPAA and FERPA privacy and security practices to the information, 3) makes this information instantly available to you if the need arises in the future, and 4) advances the speed of care and communication of our staff to you in the event of an outbreak or illness on campus.

To receive information from Magnus on how to submit your documentation, you must access your CBC e-mail account using your CBC student ID number. Instructions on how to access your student ID number and e-mail account are provided below. An email from Magnus will detail where and how to submit documentation required by the state and your username and temporary password to access your account. The bacterial meningitis vaccine or exemption from this vaccine must be submitted through Magnus Health SMR. When you log in to your Magnus Health account you will be able to download the forms that need to be completed to provide proof of vaccination or exemption. If you have additional questions please contact customer support from Magnus Health SMR, which is available to you by phone (877-461-6831) and email (service@magnushealthportal.com).
CAMPUS CONNECT and E-MAIL LOGIN INSTRUCTIONS

Campus Connect

Campus Connect is the Student Information System. With Campus Connect, students are able to:

- View and print their unofficial transcript
- View and print their class schedule
- Check their class grades
- Check their financial aid status
- Register online
- Check and verify their demographic information
- Check course availability
- And even, locate their assigned CBC Student ID number

- To Login to Campus Connect:

In the address bar of your Internet browser, type the following URL: www.coastalbend.edu and press the Enter key on your keyboard. You will be directed to the Coastal Bend College homepage as seen below.

Locate the “Campus Connect (Students)” link at the bottom left of the screen under “Quick Links” and click once on it.

At the Campus Connect screen, locate the Student Login section and enter your login information. Your Student ID will be your social security number without the dashes OR your assigned CBC Student ID number. Your CBC Student ID number can be found on your Student ID card that was issued to you, or you may find it on your class schedule/receipt of payment that was handed to you during registration. If you do not have access to your CBC Student ID, remember that you can enter your social security number into the Student ID field. Your Pin will consist of your birthday in the following format: mmddyyyy (ex.: if your birth date is January 1, 1995, you would enter 01011995. Click the arrow icon to login.

If you have successfully entered your login information, the following screen will appear.
If you need assistance or if you are unable to login, you may contact Erica Castillo at 866-722-2838 ext. 2522 for support.

- **To Locate Your CBC Student ID number using Campus Connect:**

Once you have successfully logged into Campus Connect, the first screen that appears is the Welcome screen. The welcome screen displays basic student information including your CBC Student ID number. Your CBC Student ID number will appear directly above your name and address as shown in the following illustration.

If you need additional assistance using Campus Connect, please contact Erica Castillo at 866-722-2838 ext. 2522.

**Student E-Mail Instructions**

Launch your Internet Browser (Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, etc.)

In the address bar type **study.coastalbend.edu** and press enter.

The following screen appears.

Click "Continue to this website (not recommended)". The following screen appears.
Enter your Cougar ID and password, then click the Login button to enter the system. Your Cougar ID is your last name and last four (4) digits of your social security number. Your password is your CBC Student ID number without the dashes (-).

Look at this example:

**Name:** John Smith

**Student ID #** 327-00-5219

**Social Security #** 123-45-6789

**User name:** smith6789

**Password:** 327005219

**E-mail address:** smith6789@study.coastalbend.edu

If a wrong password is entered more than three (3) times, the system will assume that it is a security issue and lock the account to prevent unauthorized access. If this happens, you will have to wait one (1) hour before the account will be unlocked automatically by the system or you may contact Jennifer Keels at 361-354-2519 to assist you.
Important Information about Bacterial Meningitis

This information is being provided to all new college students in the state of Texas. Bacterial Meningitis is a serious, potentially deadly disease that can progress extremely fast – so take utmost caution. It is an inflammation of the membranes that surround the brain and spinal cord. The bacteria that causes meningitis can also infect the blood. This disease strikes about 3,000 Americans each year, including 100-125 on college campuses, leading to 5-15 deaths among college students every year. There is a treatment, but those who survive may develop severe health problems or disabilities.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

- High fever
- Rash or purple patches on skin
- Light sensitivity
- Confusion and sleepiness
- Lethargy
- Severe headache
- Vomiting
- Stiff neck
- Nausea
- Seizures

There may be a rash of tiny, red-purple spots caused by bleeding under the skin. These can occur anywhere on the body.

The more symptoms, the higher the risk, so when these symptoms appear seek immediate medical attention.

HOW IS BACTERIAL MENINGITIS DIAGNOSED?

- Diagnosis is made by a medical provider and is usually based on a combination of clinical symptoms and laboratory results from spinal fluid and blood tests.
- Early diagnosis and treatment can greatly improve the likelihood of recovery.

HOW IS THE DISEASE TRANSMITTED?

- The disease is transmitted when people exchange saliva (such as by kissing, or by sharing drinking containers, utensils, cigarettes, toothbrushes, etc.) or come in contact with respiratory or throat secretions.

HOW DO YOU INCREASE YOUR RISK OF GETTING BACTERIAL MENINGITIS?

- Exposure to saliva by sharing cigarettes, water bottles, eating utensils, food, kissing, etc.
- Living in close conditions (such as sharing a room/suite in a dorm or group home).

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF THE DISEASE?

- Death (in 8 to 24 hours from perfectly well to dead)
- Permanent brain damage
- Kidney failure
- Learning disability
- Hearing loss, blindness
- Limb damage (fingers, toes, arms, legs) that requires amputation
- Gangrene
- Coma
- Convulsions

**CAN THE DISEASE BE TREATED?**

- Antibiotic treatment, if received early, can save lives and chances of recovery are increased. However, permanent disability or death can still occur.
- Vaccinations are available and should be considered for:
  - Those living in close quarters
  - College students 25 years old or younger
- Vaccinations are effective against 4 of the 5 most common bacterial types that cause 70% of the disease in the U.S. (but does not protect against all types of meningitis).
- Vaccinations take 7-10 days to become effective, with protection lasting 3-5 years.
- The cost of vaccine varies, so check with your health care provider.
- Vaccination is very safe – most common side effects are redness and minor pain at injection site for up to two days.
- Vaccination is available at from your local health provider.

**HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION?**

- Contact your own health care provider.
- Contact your local or regional Texas Department of Health office.
- Contact web sites: [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo); [www.acha.org](http://www.acha.org)