Policy for Health Requirements for Students Enrolling in Practicum Courses

**Policy:** All MSN and certificate students are required to meet the health and immunization requirements of the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing and its affiliated clinical facilities. All MSN students enrolling in practicum courses must have documentation of requirements on file with the School of Nursing at least 12 (twelve) weeks before the practicum start date. Students who fail to comply with these requirements will not be permitted to begin their practicum. Beginning July 1, 2011, students will be required to use a vendor selected by the School of Nursing for submitting health documents and immunization records.

**Purpose:** The site(s) selected by students in the School of Nursing for their practicum(s) may require the same health and immunization pre-screening that they require for their employees before agreeing to accept students from this School for a practicum experience. Having a standardized set of health requirements for every student will ensure compliance with all facility requirements.

**Timing:** All students are expected to have health requirements submitted to the vendor selected by the School of Nursing 12 (twelve) weeks **prior** to the start of the practicum(s). The health requirements will be accepted for the duration of the student’s enrollment in the nursing program if the participating student has not had a break in enrollment in the nursing program. The student will pay all costs of the health screening as required by the vendor. Failure by the student to submit the health requirements according to policy and in a timely manner will result in the student not being permitted to register for the practicum.

**Requirements:**
A visit to your healthcare provider is needed to complete the forms required for verification of your health status and immunization records. These records are required by the practicum agency, and are not negotiable. Failure to submit documents that allow your health status and immunization status to be verified will impact your ability to progress in the program. Accurate, timely, and correct information is expected in the submission of all documents.

1. **Physical Exam and Health History Form** (One Time)
   All Students must have a physical and health history exam form completed by a healthcare provider within six (6) months of attending clinical/practicum (please see website: www.tescnursingbackground.com for the form). Please have your healthcare provider complete the form, and then submit the completed form to American DataBank for processing.

2. **Tdap:** Tetanus, Diphtheria and Acellular Pertussis (Every Ten Years)
   All Students must have a Tdap vaccination from within the last 10 years. In lieu of a combined adult-dose of Tdap, students may submit a Td (Tetanus Diphtheria) within the last 10 years, with a Pertussis Vaccination (given as an adult). Have your healthcare provider complete the Health, Immunization and Criminal Background Compliance Form, signing and/or stamping in the box verifying your Tdap vaccination date. Please submit the completed form to American DataBank for processing.
3. **MMR: Measles, Mumps and Rubella (One Time)**
All Students must complete one of three options for Measles, Mumps and Rubella compliance.
- **a.** Have had two MMR vaccinations from childhood, with one being after twelve (12) months of age.
- **b.** Have had two doses of Measles vaccine, one dose of Mumps vaccine, and one dose of Rubella vaccine (after age twelve months).
- **c.** Have an Immune Antibody Titer for Measles, Mumps and/or Rubella (Must submit copies of labwork for all titers).

Have your healthcare provider complete the Health, Immunization and Criminal Background Compliance Form, signing and/or stamping in the box verifying your MMR vaccinations and/or titers (with result). Please submit the completed form to American DataBank for processing.

4. **Hepatitis B (One Time)**
All Students must complete one of the three options for Hepatitis B compliance.
- **a.** Have had three Hepatitis B vaccinations.
- **b.** Have had an Immune Surface Antibody Titer for Hepatitis B (Must submit copies of labwork for all titers).

>>If Titer is Non-Immune (Negative or Equivocal), you must have the number of boosters recommended by your healthcare provider, typically one to three doses.
- **c.** Submit a copy of the Hepatitis B Declination Form (please see website: www.tescnursingbackground.com for the form).

>>Note: Acceptance of the declination is dependent upon clinical practicum placement and participation. Have your healthcare provider complete the Health, Immunization and Criminal Background Compliance Form, signing and/or stamping in the box verifying your Hep B vaccinations and/or titer (with result). Please submit the completed form to American DataBank for processing.

5. **Varicella: Chickenpox (One Time)**
All Students must complete one of the three options for Varicella compliance.
- **a.** Have had two doses of Varicella vaccine.
- **b.** Have had an Immune Antibody Titer for Varicella (Must submit copies of labwork for all titers).
- **c.** Have a documented date of Chickenpox disease, estimating at least month and year of infection.

Have your healthcare provider complete the Health, Immunization and Criminal Background Compliance Form, signing and/or stamping in the box verifying your Varicella disease date or titer (with result). Please submit the completed form to American DataBank for processing.

6. **TB Testing or Chest X-Ray (Annual)**
All Students must complete one of the options below for TB Testing compliance:
- **a.** If you have a history of Negative PPD results: Submit proof of two annual PPDs, that is two TB tests within 12 months of each other, with the newest being less than 12 months ago. The results should be ‘Negative’. The TB test accepted by Thomas Edison State College is either the Tuberculin Skin Test (TST)- Mantoux tuberculin skin test or the IGRA blood test approved by the US FDA (e.g. Quantiferon® TB Gold-In-Tube Test (QFT-GIT) or T-Spot® TB Test (T-Spot) with a negative result). If you have not previously had a PPD test: Submit proof of a 2-Step PPD series, that is two TB tests within 1-4 weeks of each other, with the newest being less than 12 months ago. The results should be ‘Negative’.
- **c.** If you have a history of PPD Positive tests, submit results of a Chest X-Ray, which should have a ‘Negative’ result.
- **d.** If you have had a BGC vaccination, submit results of a Chest X-Ray, which should have a ‘Negative’ result.
- **e.** If you have an allergic reaction to TB Skin Testing, submit results of a Chest X-Ray, which should have a ‘Negative’ result.

>>Note: If the Chest X-Ray is positive, you must submit proof from your healthcare provider stating that you are not contagious for Tuberculosis infection.
Have your healthcare provider complete the Health, Immunization and Criminal Background Compliance Form, signing and/or stamping in the box verifying your PPD and/or Chest X-Ray. Also submit the Contagion-Free Document (if necessary) for compliance. Please submit the completed form to American DataBank for processing.

7. Flu (Every Year)
All MSN Students must have a seasonal flu vaccination every flu season, as defined by the CDC. If you choose to decline the seasonal flu vaccination, you must complete the Flu Declination Form (please see website: www.tescnursingbackground.com for the form).

>>Note: Acceptance of the declination is dependent upon clinical practicum placement and participation. Have your healthcare provider complete the Health, Immunization and Criminal Background Compliance Form, signing and/or stamping in the box verifying your newest seasonal flu vaccination. Please submit the completed form to American DataBank for processing.

8. CPR: AHA BLS for the Healthcare Provider or ARC CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer (Every Two Years)
All Students must have a current CPR Certification, using one of the two approved providers.
   b. American Red Cross CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer CPR Certification.
Please submit a copy of the front and back of your CPR card to American DataBank for processing.

9. Health Insurance (Annual)
All Students must provide a copy of your current health insurance card, front and back, once annually for verification of current coverage. Student may also submit any other official documentation that shows current health insurance coverage (letter of coverage, signed note from employee health, etc.). Please submit documentation of health insurance coverage to American DataBank for processing.

10. Malpractice Insurance (Renew When Expired)
All MSN Students must have current malpractice insurance covering 1 million per incident and 3 million aggregate. Please submit documentation of your coverage, showing dates covered and amount of coverage provided to American DataBank for processing.

11. 10-Panel Drug Screen (One Time, Optional)
Depending on practicum assignment, MSN students may/may not need to have a 10-panel drug screen completed, through the www.tescnursingbackground.com one time. Please place your order and complete the steps on the website for your drug screening, the results will be added to your profile as soon as they are available.

12. Background Check (One Time)
All MSN Students must have a background check conducted through the www.tescnursingbackground.com one time. Please place your order and complete the steps on the website for your background check, the results will be added to your profile as soon as possible.