Policy Regarding Health Care for Medical Students

I. General Statement Regarding Health Care for Medical Students
Each medical student is strongly encouraged to establish a relationship with and utilize the
services of a primary care physician for comprehensive health care as well as for the acute care
of illness. One option for receiving this care is the Student Health Service (SHS) at the Boston
University, Charles River Campus, 881 Commonwealth Avenue. In addition, evaluation and
treatment for mental health concerns is available to medical students.

II. Your medical and immunization record
The primary location where student health and immunization records are maintained is Student
Health Services at 881 Commonwealth Avenue. All immunization data is entered into a secure
data base to allow for easy access and retrieval of information.

III. Immunization and health requirements
Boston University is concerned for the health and safety of our incoming students. With this in
mind, we require that you have a physical examination and receive a series of immunizations
prior to your arrival. Students should arrive to campus with all of the required immunizations
and testing completed. Students will not be permitted to participate in any clinical activity or
have patient contact if these requirements are not met. The requirements are described in
detail on the “Health History and Physical Examination Report”, available for download at
http://www.bu.edu/shs/resources/forms/mchealthform/
This form should be completed and sent to Student Health Services at 881 Commonwealth Ave,
West, Boston, MA 02215. If additional immunizations are still required when you arrive on
campus, these can be administered at Student Health Services. Please recognize that there will
be a cost associated with receiving these immunizations once you arrive at Boston University.

IV. Health Insurance
Massachusetts’s law requires that all full-time students be enrolled in a qualifying health
insurance plan. Any of the plans offered by the School of Medicine, or an alternate plan with
comparable coverage, would be acceptable under State law. If a student chooses alternate
coverage, a signed declination of the School of Medicine plans, and proof of adequate alternate
coverage must be submitted through the Student Link.
V. OSHA and Life Safety Training

In accordance with university policy, all Boston University School of Medicine students are required to complete annual Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) blood borne pathogens and life safety training. Medical student OSHA training is scheduled by the Offices of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs from June to August each year. The medical student training sessions are as follows:

**BUSM I:** Scheduled at Orientation by the Office of Student Affairs.

**BUSM II:** Scheduled at Orientation by the Office of Student Affairs; accompanied by PPD testing.

**BUSM III:** Scheduled by the Office of Student Affairs at BUSM III Orientation in June; accompanied by PPD testing, mask fitting, phlebotomy training, and BLS training.

**BUSM IV:** Scheduled at Orientation by the Office of Student Affairs; accompanied by PPD testing, mask fitting.

V. Summary of Absolute Requirements for Clinical Activities

**First Year Students** must complete and submit the “Health Information and Physical Examination” form. Students must complete the pre-matriculation physical and immunization requirements before matriculation. Students who are accepted after August 1 are given additional time to complete these requirements. In addition, first year students must complete:

- Infection Control and Life Safety training, which is offered during medical school orientation
- Documentation of a Tuberculosis skin test
- HIPAA certification

**Second Year Students**

- Infection Control and Life Safety training, offered during medical school orientation
- Documentation of an annual tuberculosis skin test or its equivalent. This may be completed at SHS or during the orientation session

**Third Year Students**

- Completion of third year clinical orientation; mask fitting; safety workshops; phlebotomy training, HIPAA, and BLS training
- Documentation of an annual tuberculosis skin test or its equivalent. This may be completed at SHS
- Infection Control and Life Safety training
Fourth Year Students

• Infection Control and Life Safety training
• Documentation of an annual tuberculosis skin test or its equivalent. This may be completed at SHS or during orientation.
• Mask Fit

Students who fail to complete these requirements will not be permitted to begin any clinical activity. If you have any questions or need assistance about medical requirements, please contact a representative at Student Health Services at 617-353-3575. For other requirements, please contact Dr. Angela Jackson in the Office of Student Affairs at 617-638-4166 or hjackson@bu.edu or Dr. Doug Hughes in the Office of Academic Affairs at 617-638-4150 or dhughes@bu.edu.

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