

## **Health Requirements**

### **General Regulations**

The programs in the Faculty of Dentistry involves students interacting with patients in a health care environment, and places students in a position of special trust with patients. Therefore, certain Faculty regulations must be adhered to by all students, including but not limited to requirements for TB testing, immunization and CPR, criminal records and child abuse registry checks, clinic attire and clinical asepsis protocols. All requirements are outlined in the student Clinical Policy and Academic Policy manuals, provided to students at the beginning of each academic year.

### **CPR Requirements:**

Students accepted to the program must have a current CPR – HCP (Health Care Provider) or equivalent course that includes BLS and use of a bag-valve-mask for all ages, team dynamics and use of an AED by June 30 of the year of entry.

### **Immunization Requirements:**

Acceptance into the Faculty of Dentistry clinical programs is conditional upon receipt of evidence of complete immunization as follows:

- Tetanus
- Diphtheria
- Pertussis (Td/Tdap)
- Polio
- Measles (Rubeola)
- Mumps
- Rubella
- Hepatitis B (including post-immunization antibody titres and HBsAg)
- Varicella
- 2-step Mantoux (TB) testing
- See Memo to Students with details about meeting specific requirements)

If post-HB vaccination antibody titre results have not been completed or results indicate “non-immune” at the time of acceptance, the applicant must, at a minimum, provide blood results for the Hepatitis B Surface Antigen by June 30 of the year of entry.

Applicants whose immunization results indicate that they are HBsAg positive or who have a viral load  $>10^3$  IU/mL ( $5 \times 10^3$  GE/mL) will not be accepted into any of the clinical programs. Dalhousie University will reassess eligibility for admission should the applicant’s status change.

Students who do not acquire immunity from the HB vaccination series or who refuse the HB vaccine are susceptible to acquiring Hepatitis B. Applicants in this category will not be denied admission based on these criteria. However, after admission, any student becoming HBsAg

positive or whose viral load exceeds  $10^3$  IU/mL ( $5 \times 10^3$  GE/mL) during their studies will be removed from patient care activities. Such modification of the clinical program may prevent a student from meeting progress and promotion requirements.

Students whose viral load is greater than  $10^3$  IU/mL ( $5 \times 10^3$  GE/mL), have an ethical obligation to report their status to the Associate Dean, Clinics, Associate Dean, Students and/or Associate Dean, Academics of the Faculty of Dentistry. The student will then be referred to the ad-hoc Committee on Bloodborne Pathogens.

The cost of all immunizations and blood tests is the responsibility of the student/applicant.

Annual influenza and Covid-19 immunization is recommended for all students during each year of study.

A full explanation of the Faculty of Dentistry policy related to immunizations may be found on the Faculty of Dentistry website: [www.dal.ca/dentistry](http://www.dal.ca/dentistry)

A full explanation of the process to meet the health requirements for the dental programs at Dalhousie can be found in the following memo:



2025 Admissions  
Immunizations Memc

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