

## ***GUIDE TO MEETING PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE PLACEMENT (PEP) IMMUNISATION & SCREENING REQUIREMENTS***

The University is required to comply with Commonwealth and State legislation and regulations to ensure the safety of students and the public and that you are “safe to practice” as well as “safe in practice” during PEP. In accordance with Student Placement Agreements, students must meet the immunisation and screening requirements of the health care organisation(s) which they attend during their degree. As you begin your career in health, it is important that you take the time to ensure this compliance requirement is addressed as soon as possible.

Please access information about the immunisation and screening requirements on the [College of Health and Medicine’s PEP website](#). To achieve compliance with Utas PEP immunisation and screening requirements, a [Tasmanian Student Immunisation Record](#) (Tasmanian students) or the [NSW Vaccination Record](#) (NSW students) must be provided. This record must be completed by a health care provider and include information about vaccinations / screening you have had. All students must also complete other relevant TAS or NSW specific forms.

### **Australian Students**

**STEP 1** - To make the completion of your Tasmanian Student Immunisation Record/NSW Vaccination Record as streamlined as possible, prior to visiting your health care provider download your **Medicare Immunisation History Statement**. This can be obtained by logging on to [myGov](#) and following the links to your Medicare Online Account. There you can download/print out your statement. Upload this record to the Medicare Immunisation History Statement attribute on [InPlace](#), and the PEP team will provide you with feedback about what further action is required to meet the compliance requirements.

Other possible sources of this information include:

- **Child Health Record/Baby Book** - Different states of Australia will have different coloured records e.g. “blue books”.
- **Local council Certificate of Immunisation**. In Tasmania, councils are responsible for the organisation and running of school-based immunisation programs and public immunisation clinics. If needed, to obtain this certificate you should ring the relevant council and request this document be emailed to you.
- **Current & past GP immunisation records**. If needed, you should telephone your past and current GP practices and request a record of the immunisations that you had while attending that practice.

**STEP 2** – Complete the TB assessment Tool (Tasmania/NSW) and upload this to InPlace in relevant attribute. The PEP team will then provide you with advice as to whether you need to undertake a TB blood test.

Once you have gathered this information, make an appointment to see your health care provider to have your immunisation information documented on your Tasmanian Student Immunisation Record/NSW Vaccination Record Card. At this appointment your health care provider should also order any blood tests that are required and arrange any additional vaccines that you may need.

### **International Students**

It is strongly recommended that overseas students source vaccination and screening records from their home country that are legible in English, or that can be translated to English. You should source childhood and adolescent vaccination records from any possible sources before arrival in Australia. Visit your doctor as soon as you have accepted your university offer, as there may be blood tests and additional vaccines that you require. This will leave adequate time for any follow-up required and for all information to be documented on your Tasmanian Student Immunisation Record/NSW Vaccination Record Card. It will be much easier to have your immunisation record completed in your home country before arriving in Australia due to the potential delays in finding a local doctor to complete the immunisation record. There will be costs associated with attending the doctor several times to have your immunisation record completed.

### **International Students Please Note**

- If you undergo a TB screening blood test prior to arrival in Australia e.g. for visa purposes, it is recommended that you request a copy of the report as it may negate the need for further testing
- Please be aware that you will require an annual influenza vaccine, but as the formulation of this vaccine can vary from country to country, you will require an Australian administered vaccine to be eligible for attendance at PEP during the flu season (June to September each year)
- Once you arrive in Australia, see [How to Create a MyGov Account and get an Individual Health Identifier \(IHI\)](#) for advice about how to register for an Individual Health Identifier and obtain a Medicare Immunisation History Statement

### **What's next for all students?**

Once you have obtained the relevant immunisation and screening documentation, upload the scanned documents (combined into a single PDF please) to InPlace. You should then review InPlace regularly (at least weekly) for any advice from the PEP team until full immunisation compliance is achieved.

For any questions or information about the UTas PEP Immunisation and Screening Requirements please contact:

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