

### **Health Related Policy (Vaccination Policy)**

Valley College does not have a college-wide vaccination policy. Some programs require that the students can show proof of vaccinations and immunizations. Those requirements are listed in the Additional Requirements section found in the Admissions Section of this catalog. The student is responsible for all necessary fees associated with any immunization and other health-related requirements such as a physical.

Valley College recommends that all students in these programs carry personal health/medical insurance. If students in the Medical Clinical Assistant, Veterinary Assistant, Veterinary Technician, Practical Nursing, Nursing Associates degree, Commercial Driver License (CDL) Class A, programs require emergency treatment for illness or injury while carrying out their assignments, they will be responsible for payment for any emergency treatment rendered and all costs that may result from injury and/or illness. If the student's assigned clinic or externship/clinical site requires that the student carry personal health/medical insurance, the student is responsible for the cost of that insurance.

Other health related topics that are specific to programs are discussed in the Academics section of the Student Catalog. Students are advised to read the Student Catalog and, if applicable, the programmatic Student Handbooks carefully.

### **COVID-19 Guidelines:**

COVID-19 has tremendously impacted school's ability to place students in the required clinical and externship courses. As expected, requirements around the COVID-19 vaccine continue to evolve amongst our clinical partners. Many facilities may require the COVID Vaccine. We do not know if any exemptions will be granted. Please keep in mind any exemptions/waivers may be facility dependent, and thus exceptions could vary between clinical partners. Valley College is obligated to abide by the requirements imposed by our clinical/externship partners. We cannot guarantee alternate clinical site placement for students who do not meet the sites' requirements.

### **Medical Clinical Assistant program (MCA): Program Requirements/Recommendations (Beckley, Martinsburg, and Cleveland)**

All students in the MCA program are required to show proof of TB test (PPD skin test or chest x-ray). It is suggested that the student completes this test in Tier 1. The student must have the test and the results submitted to Valley College prior to the beginning of the Tier 3 classes. The test results with a negative reading must be received by the school prior to the start of the externship. The test date cannot expire prior to the end of the program's externship portion. If the test date expires before the student finishes the program, the student will be required to resubmit a new test result. Some sites may require proof of a 2-step PPD.

In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend the following vaccinations and immunizations.

- Proof of (a) one (1) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella Vaccination (MMR) or (b) a serum titer confirming immunity to each disease.
- Proof of (a) a second Measles Vaccination (may be a part of a second MMR or (b) a serum titer confirming immunity.
- Proof that the student has completed the Hepatitis B Vaccination series\* or (b) a serum titer confirming immunity.  
\*Hepatitis B is given in a three-part series. If the student hasn't completed the Hep B Vaccination series, the student be able to provide proof that they have received the first dose of the vaccination prior to the start of their externship. Dose 2 is taken 1 month after the first dose. Dose 3 is taken six (6) months after the first dose.
- Proof of Varicella (Chicken Pox) immunity as shown by (a) physician documented history of the disease or (b) documentation of two immunizations or (c) a serum titer confirming immunity.
- Proof of Tetanus vaccination within the last 10 years.
- Proof of Influenza immunization. (This may be a seasonal requirement.)
- Proof of COVID-19 vaccination(s). (Recommendation) An externship site may establish additional specific requirements associated with the COVID-19 virus, failure to adhere to requirements may prevent the student from participating at the externship site.

**Practical Nursing program (PN): Program Requirements/Recommendations (Cleveland and Fairlawn)**

All students are to provide proof of:

- Two step Mantoux TB Test/Negative TB blood test. If positive, a clear chest x-ray must be submitted.
- Proof of (a) a complete (3 injection series) Hepatitis B Vaccination/Booster or (b) a serum titer confirming immunity. Hepatitis B series: **Dose 1:** The student is strongly advised to start the series by the program's start date. The student is required to show proof that they have initiated the series. **Dose 2:** The second injection is given one month after the first dose. **Dose 3:** The third injection is completed six months after the first **dose**. The student must sign a **waiver** acknowledging they may not be fully immunized if the Hepatitis B series is not complete.
- Proof of (a) two (2) Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccination (MMR) or (b) a serum titer confirming immunity to each disease (and/or) Proof of booster (revaccination) if no immunity is shown or (c) one adult MMR revaccination.
- Proof of T-Dap (Tetanus) vaccination within the last 10 years.
- Proof of one (1) Varicella immunization, or (b) a serum titer confirming immunity and proof of Booster if there is no immunity shown, or (c) one Varicella revaccination.
- Proof of Influenza immunization (This may be a seasonal requirement and is good for one year.)
- COVID 19 Vaccination: Student must provide documentation of vaccination and boosters or documentation for an exemption.
- Students may provide documentation if any of the vaccines are medically contraindicated for the student.

**Nursing Associate Program Requirements/Recommendations (Beckley and Martinsburg)**

Nursing students must provide a copy of written documentation from a physician (or health care provider) concerning state vaccinations requirements. The list of the vaccinations follows:

- Proof of (a) a complete (3 injection series) Hepatitis B Vaccination or (b) a serum titer confirming immunity. Hepatitis B series is given in a three-part series. If the student does not have the complete HepB series, he/she must have proof of the first injection by the start of class and provide proof that the second injection is taken four weeks after the first. The third injection is completed 5 months after the second. If the student's HepB series is older than 10 years, the student will need to have a titer to confirm immunity.
- Proof of (a) one (1) Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccination (MMR) or (b) a serum titer confirming immunity to each disease.
- Proof of (a) a second Measles Vaccination (may be a part of a second MMR) or (b) a serum titer confirming immunity.
- Proof of 2-Step TB (PPD skin test or chest x-ray) with a negative reading.
- Proof of Varicella vaccination and/or a titer confirming immunity
- Proof of Tdap vaccination within the last 10 years.
- Proof of Influenza immunization (This may be a seasonal requirement).
- Proof that they have received the Covid-19 vaccination.  
According to the CDC guidelines, full Covid-19 vaccination is defined as receiving 1 updated Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine if you are over the age of 6 after September 2, 2022.  
If you received your Covid-19 vaccination prior to September 2, 2022, you are required to have the 1 initial vaccine dose and 1 booster.

Updated vaccines protect against both the original virus and the Omicron variant. Valley College recognizes that the CDC may approve additional Covid-19 vaccination and will provide more information to applicants as appropriate.

### **Veterinary Technician Associate Program Requirements/Recommendations (Cleveland)**

The College is approved by the Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) and must adhere to their standards. The Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA)'s Policies and Procedures of the AVMA CVTEA, Section VII: 4e. states that the safety of students, program personnel, and animals must be of prime consideration. Students must be educated on rabies risk prior to working with animals. Students must be **vaccinated against rabies** prior to working with live animals as a student. This is a requirement for the Veterinary Technician (VETT) program (and for the Veterinary Assistant students who continue their education in the Veterinary Technician program) and there are no exceptions or waivers available. Students who do not meet this requirement will not be able to continue in the VETT program.