Dear Student:

Congratulations on your acceptance to the University. The staff of Health Services looks forward to assisting you with maintaining optimal health so you may realize your full educational potential. The Immunization Law of the District of Columbia D.C. Code Title 38 §§ 501-508 (2001) requires that all students age 26 years and under, who are enrolled in a primary, secondary, or post secondary school of higher education (college or university), submit proof of immunization prior to attending classes as follows:

- Two (2) doses of Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccines (MMR) or a positive blood test for MMR. The second dose must be one to 2 months after the first dose. MMR shall not be administered within 28 days after a dose of Varicella or doses of single Measles, Mumps or Rubella vaccine, unless administered on the same day.
- Three (3) doses of Tetanus/Diphtheria (DPT, DT, Td or Tdap) if first dose received after age 18 years, or four (4) doses if received before age 18 years. A booster Td or Tdap is required 10 years after the primary series or the last booster and by age 11 years.
- Four (4) Polio vaccines (OPV or IPV) are required for students age 18 years and older.
- Three (3) doses of Hepatitis-B Vaccines or two (2) doses if both administered between age 11 years and 15 years, or a positive blood test for Hepatitis-B.
- Two (2) Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccines if the first dose was given after age 13 or a positive blood test for Varicella, or proof of chickenpox illness.
- One Meningococcal Vaccine for athletes and others living in university housing.

You should submit this information directly to the University Health Services (UHS) or submit verification that you are undergoing immunization or you will not be able to register for classes. Possible places for retrieving your immunization records may be your private physician’s office, military records, the local health department or your high school. All records must be written in English, or accompanied by a translation certified by your Embassy or other official.

If you are missing any of the above vaccines, please obtain that vaccine from your private physician or neighborhood health clinic, prior to attempting to register.

The law also states that “No certification of immunization shall be required for the admission to a school of a student: (1) For whom the responsible person objects in good faith and in writing, that immunization would violate his or her religious beliefs; or (2) For whom the school has written certification by a private physician, his or her representative, or the public health authorities that immunization is medically inadvisable.” D.C. Code §38-506 (2001).

Additionally, it is recommended that all students, regardless of age, submit a medical history to the Health Services. A form is available at the health unit and in your package. A recent medical examination or medical report is requested for those students with any disability or significant
medical condition that could impact on their academic performance or medical care in an emergency. All services we provide supplement your regular healthcare and are free.

- If you need additional information or medical forms for the above medical information, please contact the University Health Services at (202) 274-5030, 10:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Your records are confidential and may be faxed to 202-274-5411.
- Please do not come on campus if you are ill with fever, flu symptoms or any other contagious illness, until you are well. If you become ill while you are on campus, please come immediately to the health unit, building 44, room A33. Thank you and have a healthy semester!

Valerie Brown-Holder, MD
Director, Health Services, building 44, room A-33, telephone 202-274-5030, fax: 202-274-5411