

Brazos County Health Department

A City-County Public Health District



News Release

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For Immediate Release

Meningitis Vaccine Update

On January 1, 2012, new state meningitis vaccine requirements go into effect for certain students entering college. Local health departments were notified today by the Texas Department of State Health Services of changes to the vaccine administration policy.

Below are the Brazos County Health Department's (BCHD) guidelines for administering the meningitis vaccine:

- 1) The vaccine is only required for those entering college for the first time, 29 years of age and younger; The vaccine will also be offered to returning students that have skipped at least the Fall or Spring semester;
- 2) If an individual has had the vaccine within the last 5 years they are not needing another dose of vaccine;
- 3) There is a \$30 administrative fee for the vaccine. The vaccine will be offered to any entering college student regardless of whether the student has insurance or not.
- 4) Any entering college student will not be turned away for inability to pay the \$30 fee.

BCHD will have limited supplies of the vaccine available during regular immunization clinic hours. The health department is encouraging students to get vaccinated at home during the holidays to ensure vaccine availability.

For more information call 979-361-4440 or visit www.brazoshealth.org.

(News media: for more information contact Sara Mendez, PIO at (979) 361-5730.)



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