

**Austin Graduate School of Theology
Immunization Policy**

(effective January 1, 2012)

The State of Texas has mandated that all new, transfer, readmitted and special students and students enrolling following a break of at least one long semester are required to provide documentation of immunization to the Admissions Office for meningococcal meningitis.

EXEMPTIONS

- Students who are at least 30 years old.
- Students not admitted - Auditors, Special Students (non-degree seeking).

The initial meningococcal vaccine or booster must have been administered during the five-year period preceding and least ten (10) days prior to the first day of the first semester in which the student initially enrolls at an institution.

Appropriate documentation includes: the signature or stamp of a physician or his/her designee, or public health personnel on a form which shows the month, day, and year the vaccination dose or booster was administered; an official immunization record generated from a state or local health authority; or an official record received from school officials, including a record from another state. Students requesting an exemption for reasons of conscience must submit the [Vaccine Waiver Exemption](#) form available by request at Texas Department of State Health Services. An exemption for medical purposes must be obtained from a licensed physician or nurse practitioner, printed on letterhead paper and signed by the appropriate licensed medical professional.

The Admissions Office will provide new students with written notice along with registration materials regarding (1) the right of the student or of a parent or guardian of a student, to claim an exemption from the vaccination requirement and (2) of the importance of consulting a physician about the need for the immunization against bacterial meningitis to prevent the disease. This Office will also monitor all applications to ensure compliance with the law and with AGST policy. The Registrar's Office will monitor this requirement for readmitted and special students to ensure compliance.

Students who have not provided approved documentation showing that they are in compliance with this AGST immunization policy will not be allowed to attend classes. However, under justifiable circumstances, the Director of Admissions may grant extensions to individual students to extend the date to no more than 10 days after the first day of the semester in which the student initially enrolls.