

MANUAL OF POLICY

Title **Bacterial Meningitis Vaccine Requirement** **3690**

Legal Authority **Approval of the Board of Trustees**

Date Approved by Board **Board Minute Order dated November 28, 2011**

South Texas College, in compliance with the Texas Education Code 51.9192, Subchapter Z, as amended by the 82nd Texas Legislature, requires all new students who enroll on or after January 1, 2012, to submit documentation of immunization for bacterial meningitis from an appropriate medical professional by the 10th class day to meet compliance requirements. This includes students who transfer, and students who enroll following a break in enrollment of at least one Fall or Spring semester from South Texas College.

A student is exempt if he or she is:

- 30 years of age or older by the first day of the start of the semester, or
- enrolled only in online or other distance education courses; or
- enrolled in a continuing education course or program that is less than 360 contact hours, or continuing education corporate training; or
- enrolled in a dual credit course which is taught at a public or private K-12 facility not located on a higher education institution campus; or
- incarcerated in a Texas prison.

A student, parent, or guardian of a student is not required to submit evidence of receiving the vaccination against bacterial meningitis if the student, parent or guardian of a student, submits one of the following:

- an affidavit or a certificate signed by a physician who is duly registered and licensed to practice medicine in the United States, in which it is stated that, in the physician's opinion, the vaccination required would be injurious to the health and well-being of the student; or
- a conscientious exemption form from the Texas Department of State Health Services signed by the student stating that the student declines the vaccination for bacterial meningitis for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief.