

TO: College and University Health Centers
FROM: CDPH
SUBJECT: Message from CDPH to College Health Centers
DATE: 8/26/14

Dear College and University Health Center Administrators:

Students living in congregate housing are at a higher risk for [meningococcal disease](#), which can lead to hearing loss, brain damage, loss of limbs, or death. Make sure that your incoming freshmen have been vaccinated against meningococcal disease! Even if they had a dose of meningococcal vaccine before the age of 16 years, they need a booster before entering college. Make sure your students are also protected from other serious vaccine preventable diseases as well.

State law mandates that institutions with on-campus housing inform students about meningococcal disease and vaccine. Institutions must also document students' receipt of information and whether they choose to get immunized (Health and Safety Code Sections 120395-120399).

Keep your campus healthy!



- Download and customize CDPH's [Off to College flyer](#) to inform students about the meningococcal vaccine and to document receipt of information as well as their intention to get vaccinated. You can also order FREE copies from [your local health department](#).
- Include the flyer in welcome packets, email it to students, or make it available in campus dormitories, common areas, campus health centers and websites.

For more information on additional recommendations for immunization and screening requirements for California colleges and universities, visit:
<http://www.shotsforschool.org/college/>

Thank you for protecting California students!