Bacterial Meningitis Requirement

**Why Do I Need a Bacterial Meningitis Vaccine?**
A recent State Law (SB 1107) requires all students under the age of 30 entering a higher education institution to show proof of having the vaccine 10 days prior to the start of the term.

**Are there any exceptions to the law?**
The following exceptions apply:
1. If you are over the age of 30 before the semester start date.
2. If you are taking internet (web) courses only.
3. The Texas Department of Health allows exemptions from the immunization based on:
   a. Medical Issues
   b. Reasons of conscience, including a religious belief
   c. Active duty with the armed forces of the United States.

**How do I file for one of the exceptions mentioned above?**
1. If you are over (or will be) the age of 30 prior to the start of the term, you will automatically get the exemption.
2. If you plan on taking Internet only courses, you will need to contact admissions and ask for the exemption. Please note: if you receive this exemption then enroll in an on-site class, you will be dropped from your on-site class.
3. To file an exemption under one of the provisions from the Texas Department of Health, you must use the form provided by the Texas Department of Health. Here is a link to the form:
   [https://webds.dshs.state.tx.us/immco-affidavit.shtm](https://webds.dshs.state.tx.us/immco-affidavit.shtm)
   Here is a link on information about the exception on the Texas Department of Health website:
   [http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/default.shtm#exclusions](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/default.shtm#exclusions)

*Please note: It takes the Texas Department of Health 1 week to mail you the exception form. Please plan accordingly.*

**What is acceptable evidence of having the meningitis vaccine?**
1. A physician signed or stamped form
2. Official state or local immunization record
3. Official record from school officials.

**Where can I show proof that I have the vaccine?**
You can submit proof to the Admissions & Records office at any campus. You can fax your proof to 972.548.6702. You can scan your document and send it to Admissions@collin.edu. Please be sure to include your full name, date of birth and/or Campus Wide ID number on all correspondence.

*Please note: Your application will not be complete and you will not be eligible to enroll/register for courses until you provide proof or provide documentation for one of the exceptions listed above.*

**What happens if I don’t get the vaccine?**
If you are required to have it, and do not show proof, you will not be eligible to enroll for classes at Collin.

**Where can I get the vaccine?**
You can get the vaccine from your doctor, the Texas Department of Health or through some pharmacies like CVS or Walgreens.

**Is there a deadline to get the vaccine?**
Yes, the vaccine must have been given no later than 10 days prior to the start of the term.
For Spring 2014, you must get the vaccine on or before January 10, 2014.
For Summer I/III, 2014 you must get the vaccine on or before May 30, 2014. For Summer II, 2014 you must get the vaccine on or before July 3, 2014.
For Fall 2014, you must get the vaccine no later than August 14, 2014.