

Meningococcal Disease Information and Vaccine Waiver

Colorado law, Section 23-5-128, C.R.S., requires all public or nonpublic postsecondary education institutions in Colorado to provide information about meningococcal disease to new students. 'New students' means any incoming freshman student residing in student housing, as defined by the institution, or any student the institution requires to complete and return a standard immunization record indicating the vaccines received by the student, as a requirement for residing in student housing. *If the student is under 18 years of age, the student's parent/guardian must be given this information.*

- Meningococcal disease is a serious disease caused by a bacteria.
- Meningococcal disease is a contagious, but largely preventable, infection of the spinal cord fluid and the fluid that surrounds the brain. Meningococcal disease can also cause blood infections.
- Even when treated, meningococcal disease kills 10 to 15 infected people out of 100. Of those who live, about 10 to 20 will suffer disabilities such as