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# SAINT JOSEPH SEMINARY COLLEGE

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Office of Admissions | 75376 River Road Saint Benedict, LA 70457 | 985 867-2238 | 985 867-2270

## Immunization Record

Pursuant to **Louisiana State law R.S. 17:170.1** enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana, section 170.1 of House Bill 154 entitled **Immunizations of persons registering for courses at postsecondary education institutions**, students are required to submit a certificate of immunization against meningococcal diseases.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to require any public or nonpublic postsecondary education institution to provide or pay for vaccinations against meningococcal disease.

No person shall have a cause of action for damages for injury, loss, or death against the state or any agency, official, or employee thereof or against any postsecondary education institution, its governing authority, or any official or employee thereof for failure to provide the information required by the Act or for any act or omission in complying with the provisions of this Act.

**Risk of Disease:** Meningitis is an infection of the fluid of a person's spinal cord and the fluid that surrounds the brain. People sometimes refer to it as spinal meningitis. Meningitis is usually caused by a viral or bacterial infection. Knowing whether meningitis is caused by a virus or bacterium is important because the severity of illness and the treatment differ. Viral meningitis is generally less severe and resolves without specific treatment, while **bacterial meningitis can be quite severe and may result in brain damage, hearing loss, or learning disability.**

**Vaccination availability:** Vaccine is available through your family physician or Health clinics.

**Benefits of the Vaccine:** See attached "*Important Facts for Parents to know about The Meningococcal Vaccine*" and "*Frequently Asked Questions about the Meningococcal Vaccine*".

**Possible side effects:** There are risks associated with all vaccines. The most common adverse reactions to Menactra vaccine include pain, redness, and induration at the site of infection; headache; fatigue; and malaise. Menactra vaccine is contraindicated in persons with known hypersensitivity to any component of the vaccine or to latex, which is used in the vial stopper. Because of the risk of injection site hemorrhage, intramuscular vaccination should not be given to persons with any bleeding disorder or an anticoagulant therapy unless the potential benefit clearly outweighs the risk of administration.

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