

CONTROL COSTS AND LIMIT RISK: FairChoice Automates Vaccination Paperwork

Introduction

In the State of New York, Public Health Law § 2165 mandates MMR immunization for all incoming students enrolling for more than six semester hours or four credit hours per quarter. By law, each student must submit proof of immunizations for measles, mumps and rubella. Maintaining accurate and accessible vaccination records for each student is daunting, but FairChoice provides a web-enabled alternative that is friendly, fast, and cost-effective.

The Current Unreliable Process

Each summer, colleges and universities struggle with a manual process that is time consuming, tedious, and vulnerable to human error. Identifying, notifying, and tracking non-compliant student is a burden on a college or university's resources. Dependence on manual processing of vaccination records has negative effects across campus:

Student Frustration:

Low compliance results in many students receiving "holds" on their registration, resulting in student dissatisfaction and delays. In most cases, this is the student's first interaction with the university – not the welcome most universities would prefer.

PHI Exposure:

Paper-based vaccination processing increases the risk of exposing a student's personal health information (PHI). A student's private medical records may sit in very public areas: a desktop, a fax machine, or an open mailbox. The more hands that touch a student's records, the greater the chance that a student's privacy will be violated.

Disconnected Coordination:

The various departments involved in student care – admissions, registration, and campus security – have inconsistent and unreliable access to MMR compliance information. In the event of an outbreak, miscommunication is not an option. Should a medical emergency occur – any delay puts the entire student body at risk. FairChoice facilitates immediate and accurate response to campus emergencies

Institutions that migrate from paper to web-based vaccination processing are empowered to improve service, redeploy resources more effectively, and better

safeguard their students.

In Five Sentences, Why FairChoice?

- 1) FairChoice ensures that student understands the importance of health requirements and are in compliance – prior to their arrival on campus.
- 2) FairChoice maintains accurate and up to date records about who has and has not been vaccinated
- 3) FairChoice allows all stakeholders – including admissions and registration officers – to monitor compliance status rates in real-time without revealing personal health information.
- 4) FairChoice strengthens the bond between a school and its students and communication between departments.
- 5) FairChoice allows campus health officers to focus on managing campus health – not paperwork.

How It Works

FairChoice begins to help the moment a student has accepted an offer of admission:

The Story of the Incoming Student

- FairChoice notifies all incoming students via email
- An email link guides the student to a customized secure portal that has the look and feel of the college or university's Web pages
- The student submits those portions of his or her medical record that are his or her personal responsibility
- The student downloads a personalized immunization record and brings it to his or her medical provider
- The medical provider reviews, completes, signs the immunization record
- The student faxes the immunization record to FairChoice where it is digitized and logged



No Lines to Stand In. No Delays. No Frustration

FairChoice preserves the student's record in a secure electronic vault accessible for reporting and ongoing health management.

Students Failing to Comply with the Immunization Process

FairChoice tracks students who have submitted incorrect immunization data – as well as those students who are not compliant. Until the student fulfills all campus health requirements, FairChoice sends the student personalized reminder emails while providing health services with real-time information and reports on non-compliant students. FairChoice works with the institution to develop a communication strategy that increases the likelihood of a 100% compliance rate by the first day of class.

Behind the Scenes

The FairChoice Automated Review Process:

FairChoice automatically analyses each student's secure electronic record for immunization compliance by comparing New York State requirements with the information the student and medical provider have submitted. All students enrolled for than 6 semester hours or 4 credit hours per quarter and born after January 1st, 1957 must submit proof of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella in accordance with PHL § 2165 of New York State Law.

To Prove Measles Immunity:

Criteria 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 Demonstrates Immunity

1. Positive Measles Titer: Immunity proven by Serological Testing.
 - 1a. Must provide copy of Lab Result.
2. Two doses of Live Measles virus vaccine.
 - 2a. First dose administered no more than 4 days prior to the first birthday.
 - 2b. Second dose administered after 15 months of age and at least 28 days after the first dose.
 - 2c. Doses administered prior to 1968 are not valid unless documentation specifically states it was a Live Vaccine.

3. Two Doses of MMR

- 3a. First dose administered no more than 4 days prior to the first birthday.
- 3b. Second dose administered after 15 months of age and at least 28 days after the first dose.
- 3c. Doses administered prior to 1972 are not valid: MMR not available in US until 1972.

4. Documented History of Illness diagnosed by a physician. Physician must enter dates of initial diagnosis.

5. The student must provide proof of honorable discharge from the armed forces within 10 years from the date of application to the institution. The proof of honorable discharge shall qualify as a certificate enabling a student to attend the institution pending actual receipt of immunization records from the armed forces.

6. The student may submit documentation which proves the student attended primary or secondary school in the U.S. after 1980 which will be sufficient proof that the student received one dose of Live Measles vaccine. If this option is used, the 2nd Dose of measles vaccine must have been administered within one year of attendance at a post-secondary institution.

To Prove Mumps Immunity:

Criteria 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 Demonstrates Immunity

1. Positive Mumps Titer: Immunity proven by Serological Testing.
 - 1a. Must provide copy Lab Result.
2. One dose of Live Mumps virus administered no more than 4 days prior to the first birthday.
 - 2a. Dose administered before 1/1/1969 is not valid. Live vaccine not available until then.
3. One dose of MMR administered no more than 4 days prior to the first birthday.
 - 3a. Dose administered prior to 1972 is not valid: MMR not available in US until 1972.
4. Documented History of Illness diagnosed by a physician. Physician must enter dates of initial diagnosis.
5. The student must provide proof of honorable discharge from the armed forces within 10 years from



the date of application to the institution. The proof of honorable discharge shall qualify as a certificate enabling a student to attend the institution pending actual receipt of immunization records from the armed forces.

To Prove Rubella Immunity:

Criteria 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 Demonstrates Immunity

1. Positive Rubella Titer: Immunity Proven by Serological Testing
 - 1a. Must provide copy of Lab Result.
2. One dose of Live Rubella virus administered no more than 4 days prior to the first birthday.
 - 2a. Dose administered before 1/1/1969 not valid: Vaccine not available in US until 1969.
3. One Dose of MMR administered no more than 4 days prior to the first birthday.
 - 3b. Dose administered prior to 1972 is not valid: MMR not available in US until 1972.
4. The student must provide proof of honorable discharge from the armed forces within 10 years from the date of application to the institution. The proof of honorable discharge shall qualify as a certificate enabling a student to attend the institution pending actual receipt of immunization records from the armed forces.

Note: History of Illness is not acceptable proof of immunity under the New York State Health Code.

EXEMPTIONS:

- 1) Medical Exemption as documented by a Medical Provider
- 2) Religious Exemption
- 3) Born before January 1, 1957

The FairChoice Solution

FairChoice validates immunization records with a unique automated process that is fast, secure, and reliable. FairChoice instantly confirms whether:

- 1) Vaccine dosage dates are within the appropriate date range of the student's date of birth.
- 2) In the case of Live Measles Vaccine or MMR, the two dosage dates have been given within the correct time period.

- 3) Vaccine dosage date is after the vaccine's inception date. (i.e.: in the case of MMR, after 1972).
- 4) Serological test results meet the immune values for the specific virus.
- 5) If student has marked "documented history of illness diagnosed by a physician," an appropriate date of illness is provided as compared to the student's date of birth.
- 6) Medical Provider's signature is entered with the date on the Immunization Record.

Should a student provide proof of honorable discharge from the armed forces or provide documentation that the student attended primary or secondary school in the US after 1980; these documents may accompany the student's immunization records.

Back to the Campus:

All immunization records are subject to personal review before certification. A designated member of the campus health service reviews each immunization record via secure Web pages. For most students, the entire review process can be completed in less than sixty seconds.

- Staff may compare digital images of the actual documents with the information as recorded in the FairChoice database and update records as needed.
- FairChoice clearly identifies each student record for probable eligibility of certification:
 - A red light signifies that the immunization record requires further action by the student or staff member. Such records may contain information that is incomplete, incorrect or insufficient.
 - A yellow light signifies that the immunization record looks accurate and complete. Once the record is yellow, it is ready for final staff review to confirm compliance.
 - A green light indicates that the campus health center has confirmed the student as compliant. The student will receive a secure, HIPAA compliant, electronic confirmation once the immunization record is confirmed.

Campus health center staff may send secure electronic notifications to students at any time. At the end of the process, FairChoice preserves the student's response in a secure electronic vault accessible for reporting and ongoing health management.



Students Failing to Comply with the Certification Process:

FairChoice tracks students who have submitted incorrect or incomplete immunization data – as well as those students who have not even begun the process. Until the student fulfills all campus health requirements, FairChoice sends reminder emails while providing health services with real-time information and reports on non-compliant students. FairChoice works with the institution to develop a communication strategy that increases the likelihood of a 100% compliance rate upon the first day of class.

A Coordinated Approach

After the student logs on and submits the required information, their job is done—but the institution can benefit from the flexibility of the FairChoice platform in a number of ways that are difficult or impossible with paper forms. FairChoice generates a variety of real-time reports for tracking and managing each step of the meningitis compliance process. FairChoice reporting capabilities enable campus health officers to:

- Transfer each student's vaccination information into the campus health service electronic health record.
- Generate compliance reports for state-wide authorities and vaccination data repositories
- Provide campus leaders with real-time dashboards indicating compliance rates
- Create new reports that can meet the specific needs of the institution.

HIPAA and FERPA compliant reports can be shared with multiple campus stakeholders so that the school has a coordinated pro-active strategy for health management. All departments will be able to assist delinquent students with consistent accurate information. Reports can be configured so that the department see only as much information as there is a need to know. Real-time reporting gives student health service managers and other campus stakeholders the ability to move quickly if a case of measles or mumps is diagnosed on campus.

50,000 Student Can't Be Wrong

FairChoice is based on technology developed and in use at Columbia University. This system has proven to be invaluable in tracking a large student population, residents and non-residents, and has met with consistent student satisfaction. FairChoice integrates with your institution's existing systems – rather than replacing legacy systems – thereby increasing cost-savings and reducing implementation time.

It's a win, win situation.

The student wins because from the moment they are accepted, they are welcomed with an immediate eye towards their well-being. Each student at a school employing FairChoice benefits from a more organized, fully compliant, and safer certification procedure. A student can be confident that their information will be accessible in the event of an emergency. At the same time, the integrity of the student's confidential medical information is preserved. FairChoice does this automatically, exemplifying HIPAA regulations and other best practices.

The administration wins because implementation of FairChoice reduces wasted effort, eliminates paper, and speeds up service. Administration of the immunization process no longer requires intense manual effort to review each immunization record for accuracy, track non-compliant students, and generate reports. FairChoice handles the entire process – from beginning to end – through a secure online system. As a result, the potential for exposure of personal health information due to unauthorized access to paper records is eliminated. And the increased efficiency and accuracy of FairChoice allows resources to be maximized.



Take a moment to compare how your institution complies with New York State Law 2165 and the service FairChoice offers you. FairChoice provides a cost-effective, efficient, streamlined approach to health administration.

FairChoice is the most important investment your department can make.

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