Important Information Regarding the Bacterial Meningitis Vaccination

During the last Texas State Legislation session, SB 1107 was passed and beginning with the spring 2012 semester, all new entering or re-admit students under the age of 30 at a public or private institution of higher education must provide evidence of vaccination against bacterial meningitis or a signed waiver declining the vaccination.

Unless exempted as noted below, the following students must comply with this requirement.

- All first-time students at A&M-Commerce.
- All students who are transferring from any institution of higher education to A&M-Commerce.
- All students who previously attended A&M-Commerce and who are enrolling following being out for one long fall/spring semester.

You may be EXEMPT from the Bacterial Meningitis requirement if:

- You will be age 30 or older on the first class day of the semester in which you are enrolling at A&M-Commerce. You do not need to submit any documentation.
- You will be enrolled only in online or distance education courses. You do not need to submit any documentation.

A Bacterial Meningitis vaccination is required prior to enrollment in Texas A&M University-Commerce. All new and re-admit students must provide:

1. Evidence the student has received the vaccination or booster during the five years preceding AND at least 10 days prior to enrollment. This evidence must be submitted in one of the following formats:
   - Document bearing the signature or stamp of the physician or his/her designee, public health personnel to include the month, day, and year the vaccination was given.
     OR
   - Official immunization record generated from a state or local health authority to include the month, day, and year the vaccination was given. OR
   - Official record received from school officials, including a record from another state to include the month, day and year the vaccination was given. OR

2. Evidence the student is declining the vaccination can be submitted in one of the following two formats:
   - Affidavit or a certificate signed by a physician stating in their opinion the required vaccination would be harmful to the health and well-being of the student. OR
   - Affidavit signed by the student stating the student declines the vaccination for bacterial meningitis for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief. A conscience exemption form from the Texas Department of State Health Services must be included. Please be aware that this is the only acceptable documentation for this exemption and
receiving this form may take a significant amount of time. The request form can be found at https://webds.dshs.state.tx.us/immco/affidavit.shtm

At this time, A&M-Commerce has partnered with Magnus Health SMR to collect and review student’s vaccination records or waivers forms. The Office of Undergraduate Admissions will provide Magnus Health SMR with a list of admitted students for each semester who are under the age of 30 and admitted into a degree program that is not delivered completely online. Magnus Health SMR will then email students who are required to provide their Bacterial Meningitis vaccination or exemption with instructions on how to upload your documentation to their web-based system for review and verification. When submitting your documentation, it must be in English and you must include your Campus Wide Identification Number (CWID) and there will be a $10 processing fee paid directly to Magnus Health SMR. Timely submission of your Bacterial Meningitis will ensure your course(s) registration is not dropped by the tenth class day of the semester.

If you have any further questions, please contact your admissions processor based on the following alphabet breakdown:

A-E Angela Woodruff 903-886-5077  angela_woodruff@tamu-commerce.edu
F-K Gary Robnett 903-468-3284  gary_robnett@tamu-commerce.edu
L-R Judy Allen 903-886-5079  judy_allen@tamu-commerce.edu
S-Z Sally Stout 903-886-5104  sally_stout@tamu-commerce.edu