

Declaration of Health

University of Reading programmes MPharm Pharmacy, MPAS Physician Associate Studies and MSci Speech and Language Therapy all involve working closely with both patients and members of the public.

In order to protect you, and the patients/public during your course, you must meet specified occupational health requirements. Once you have a University of Reading email address (enrolled on the course) you will be required to enter health information on our online Pathways platform. Please read the information carefully below, which tells you what evidence you need to obtain and submit to us so you can have the information ready and prepared.

1. Online Pathways Platform

As part of the occupational health screening process, you are required to enter health information and upload all evidence required on our online Pathways platform. You will have access to this once you have a University of Reading email address. Before any clinical placements, which are a compulsory part of the course, you will be required to be vaccinated for some infectious diseases if you do not already have immunity to them. The online platform will ask you some questions about your health, and vaccinations you have received, which will help us to identify whether you need to be given additional advice from our Occupational Health Service provider.

Students starting the programme in September 2022 should ensure that this information, and the required evidence is submitted by **Monday 26 September 2022 at the latest**.

2. Evidence of immunity to Mumps, Measles and Rubella (MMR) and Varicella (chicken pox)

You must be immune to chickenpox, mumps, measles, and rubella as it is important to protect you and patients from this, particularly those who have cancer, are immunocompromised or are pregnant.

For **MMR** - you should have had two MMR immunisations OR have blood test results which show your immunity. You will be required to show evidence of the dates of the

TWO MMR vaccinations you have received or blood tests that have been taken. If you have not had this vaccination, you should contact your GP now to arrange for this to be done before your arrival. MMR vaccination through your GP should be free of charge.

For **Varicella** - you must either be certain that you have had chicken pox (no evidence is required but you must specify the time you had the chicken pox in the declaration form) OR show evidence of the dates of two Varicella vaccinations OR blood test results which show your immunity. If you have not had chicken pox previously, we can advise on how to arrange for a blood test to check your immunity, although you will be charged for this.

3. Tuberculosis (TB) information

We will ask you questions to check that you are clear of symptoms associated with TB. This will help to identify students which may require a blood test for TB infection and ensure there is no risk to others.

We will also ask if you have TB immunity (e.g either a BCG vaccination scar to show that you have had the vaccination OR test results to show that you are immune). Please note, BCG vaccination is not a mandatory requirement of the course.

4. Routine childhood immunisations

It is in your best interests to make sure that your routine childhood immunisations are up to date before you arrive at RSOP. You will be required to show evidence of the dates of any vaccinations you have received or blood tests that have been taken as mentioned above. You can obtain an up to date copy of your immunisation history from your GP or your parents may also have a record detailing all the immunisations you have had, along with the relevant dates.

5. Hepatitis B Vaccination

Hepatitis B vaccination is not a mandatory requirement of the course. However, should you choose to complete this vaccination course, we can advise on how you can get it done, at your own cost.

6. Flu Vaccination

A yearly flu vaccine is not mandatory requirement of the course. However, you may wish to consider having a yearly flu vaccine to protect yourself against the virus.