

Health and Safety Information

Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act

Bridgewater State University complies with the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act (the “Clery Act”). In accordance with the Clery Act, the university publishes annual Campus Crime and Fire Safety Reports. The annual Clery Reports contain information about campus security and fire safety policies, as well as statistics concerning reported crimes occurring on campus, on university-controlled property and on public property immediately adjacent to campus, and statistics of all fires in residence halls. A copy of the annual Clery Reports may be found on the Bridgewater State University Police Department [website](#) or a paper copy of the reports will be provided upon request.

Hazing

Hazing is unlawful in Massachusetts and is prohibited by Bridgewater State University. Massachusetts law defines hazing as “... any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person.” Any person who is a principal organizer or participant in the crime of hazing may be punished by a fine of not more than \$3,000 or by imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Additionally, it is a violation of Massachusetts law for any person at the scene of a hazing crime who knows that another individual is the victim of a hazing crime to fail to report the crime to law enforcement. The University prohibits retaliation against any person who reports or files a claim of hazing under university procedures or applicable law or who assisted or participated in an investigation or resolution of such report, complaint or charge. For additional information, please refer to the [Bridgewater State University Student Handbook](#) for the complete university policy statement on hazing. In compliance with the federal Stop Campus Hazing Act, Bridgewater State University publishes a Campus Hazing Transparency Report to inform the public about student organizations found responsible for hazing violations under university policy or state law.

The Stop Campus Hazing Act requires all higher education institutions receiving federal aid to publish this report at least twice each year. In accordance with the law, records in this report will be maintained for a minimum of five calendar years from the date of each update. The law also requires that the university make available information about its hazing-related policies as well as applicable state and local laws.

[2025 Campus Hazing Transparency Report](#) (PDF published Dec. 2025)

Annual statistics on campus crime are available in the university's [Annual Security Report](#).

Drug and Alcohol Policies

In compliance with the federal Drug-Free Workplace Act and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, Bridgewater State University has adopted and implemented programs to prevent the unlawful manufacture, possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on university property or as part of any university activities.

The university also prohibits the possession, consumption, storage or service of alcohol by students and/or their guests, except by persons 21 years of age or older who are in transit to (not being consumed, stored or served) or at approved or licensed locations, and within the limits of state and local laws and university policy.

The university prohibits unlawful manufacture, possession, use, dispensation or distribution of illegal drugs, narcotics or other controlled substances, including marijuana, on University property or at university activities.

The university imposes sanctions, up to and including termination or expulsion and referral for prosecution on students and employees who violate the university alcohol and drug policies.

For the full content of university policies pertaining to alcohol and illegal drugs and a description of sanctions for violations of the alcohol and drug policies, civil and criminal penalties, health risks of drug and alcohol use, and campus resources and referral agencies, please refer to the [Bridgewater State University Student Handbook](#) or contact the Office of Community Standards, Dinardo Hall, Room 133, Tel: 508.531.6177; Health Promotion at the Wellness Center, Weygand Hall, Room 1048, Tel: 508.531.2200; or the Office of Human Resources, Boyden Hall, Room 103, Tel: 508.531.1324.

Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Policy

Bridgewater State University has a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy environment for its students and employees. To ensure the wellness of its community members, the university prohibits the smoking and/or vaping of tobacco products or other smoking products. Smoking, vaping and the use/possession of associated paraphernalia is prohibited in all buildings, grounds, and vehicles owned or leased by Bridgewater State University, regardless of location.

This policy applies equally to all Bridgewater State University community members, including students, faculty, staff, vendors, contractors, visitors, volunteers and all other affiliated or nonaffiliated persons. Violations of this policy may be grounds for disciplinary action.

To review the full Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Policy, or for more information about smoking cessation programs and resources, please refer to the [Bridgewater State](#)

[University Student Handbook](#). Employees are encouraged to contact the Office of Human Resources, Boyden Hall, Room 103, Tel: 508.531.1324 for additional information. Students are encouraged to contact Health Promotions at the Wellness Center, Weygand Hall, Room 1048, Tel: 508.531.2200; or the Office of Community Standards, DiNardo Hall, Room 133, Tel: 508.531.6177.

Vaccination Requirements

All full-time students (undergraduate students taking 12 credits or more and graduate students taking 9 credits or more) and all full-time and part-time health sciences students and all full-time and part-time international students while on a student or other visa must provide proof of:

- Completed online Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Questionnaire. You will be notified via BSU email if additional information is required.
- 1 dose of Tdap within the past 10 years, Tetanus (Td) may be submitted if over 10 years from last Tdap.
- 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine*
- 2 doses of measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine*: first dose must be given on or after the first birthday and the second dose must be given a minimum of 28 days after the first dose; laboratory evidence of immunity is acceptable. Birth in the U.S. before 1957 is acceptable only for non-health science students.
- 2 doses of Varicella (Chicken Pox), documented history of disease, or positive titer*
- 1 dose of Meningitis (MenACWY) received on or after the student's 16th birthday or a completed Meningitis waiver, applies to all full-time students under 22 years of age.

In addition, all full-time students (including full-time graduate students) must complete your electronic medical record process as described below. Massachusetts immunization laws apply to all students taking in-person courses or participating in on campus activities as well as all international students and full-time students under 30 years of age.

Please login to your student health portal to complete your electronic medical record.

1. Login to your student health portal at <https://bridgew.medicatconnect.com>. Use your BSU username and password.
2. Find your missing immunizations listed under "Immunizations."
3. Upload your missing immunization documentation from your primary care physician or a completed, **signed** copy of the "BSU Required Immunization Form" located under "Forms."
4. Complete the Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Questionnaire.

- Students can sign a waiver declining vaccination at this time. A student, or the student's parent or guardian, if the student is a minor, may opt to sign a waiver which details that the student has received and reviewed information about the risks and dangers of meningococcal disease, has elected to decline the vaccine. Such a waiver must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the beginning of classes. Please contact the Wellness center to receive a waiver based on medical or religious exemption.

For more information, visit the [Massachusetts Department of Public Health website](#).

Bridgewater State University recommends meningitis immunization for all students (even though all students are not required by law to receive it). Information regarding meningitis and the meningitis vaccine can be found [here](#).

Proof of the required immunizations listed above must be provided by a physician, health organization, or a prior school and must include the dates (month and year). As noted above, immunization requirements apply as well to international students attending or visiting on a visa, including those attending classes as part of an academic visitation or exchange program.

*Serologic proof of immunity will be acceptable (though often costly). Serological proof of immunity is an alternate way to prove immunity. Serological tests must be done by your primary care physician and requires blood to be drawn, sent out and analyzed, usually taking at least 2 weeks for results. Serological tests can be costly, may not be covered by insurance and often come back negative (which means no immunity). Students with negative serologies must be immunized and provide documentation of the immunization(s).

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