



**Policy Chapter:** Chapter 7 Student Affairs

**Policy Number and Title:** 07.003 Student Health and Wellness Center

---

**I. Policy Statement**

The University of North Texas considers the health and wellness of the students a top priority, and essential to the learning environment. In support of student health and wellness, the University has adopted this policy, which governs coverage of health and wellness, medical excuses, the right of the Student Health and Wellness Center (SHWC) to terminate service, and tuberculosis requirements.

**II. Application of Policy**

All UNT students, as well as faculty and staff who use UNT health care services.

**III. Policy Definitions**

**A. Contagious Illness**

“Contagious illness,” in this policy, means an infectious disease that is spread from person to person.

**B. Educational Activity**

“Educational Activity,” in this policy, means International student enrollment in Intensive English Language Institute (IELI), or engaged in curricular practical training, Optional Practice Training, Internship, Practicum, Academic Training, Study Abroad, or other credit or non-credit activity as a bona fide UNT student.”

**C. Final Separation**

“Final separation,” in this policy, means graduation or when a student is no longer engaged in educational activities with the University.

**D. High Risk Student**

“High risk student,” in this policy, means a student who is considered to be at high risk for tubercular disease (TB) as defined by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including a student coming to the UNT from a country of high incidence of TB ( $\geq 20$  cases per 100,000 population), a student who has a history or a positive TB test, or a student who has had close contact with anyone who was sick with TB.

**E. International Student**

“International student,” in this policy, means a student who is not a citizen of the United States or its territories and who has entered the United States on a student visa, specifically to enroll at the UNT including students attending the Intensive English Language Institute (IELI).

**F. Medical Excuse**

“Medical excuse,” in this policy, means written documentation from a provider regarding the medical necessity of a patient missing a class or event where attendance is considered mandatory.

**G. Medical Provider**

“Medical provider,” in this policy, means an individual that provides preventative, curative, or rehabilitative healthcare services in a systematic way to individuals.

**H. Residence**

“Residence,” in this policy, means the continuous period from initial orientation and enrollment or employment, including holidays, through final separation from the University.

**I. Student**

“Student,” in this policy, means anyone actively enrolled in at least one SCH (semester credit hour) during a given enrollment term. Student also includes individuals between academic terms that completed the most recent term and registered for the upcoming term.

**J. Tuberculosis (TB)**

“Tuberculosis” and “TB,” in this policy, mean a disease caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis that usually attacks the lungs or any other part of the body (e.g., kidney, spine, and brain). If not treated properly, TB can be fatal.

**K. Tuberculosis (TB) Screening**

“Tuberculosis screening” and “TB screening,” in this policy, mean the process for identifying persons at high risk for TB infection and disease through a questionnaire where the student identifies risk factors for TB infection and disease.

**L. Tuberculosis (TB) Test**

“Tuberculosis test” and “TB test,” in this policy, mean the accepted methods to determine if a student has developed an immune response to the bacterium that causes TB.

**IV. Policy Responsibilities**

**A. Coverage**

1. Current UNT students have access to healthcare and healthcare-related services (together, Services) through the Student Health and Wellness Center (SHWC). The student Medical Service Fee supports the Medical Clinic; however, office visits and medical services may incur additional charges.
  - a. The SHWC includes the Medical Clinic and health education resources. The Medical Clinic provides primary medical care, wellness resources (nutrition counseling, gynecological education, and travel counseling), mental health services, and other Clinical in-house services.

2. UNT international students and scholars holding non-immigrant visas must carry UNT-approved health insurance coverage during the entire period of their UNT residence until their Final Separation with the University.
  - a. Registered International students, scholars, or other persons engaged in educational activities at UNT with a current passport and student visa will be automatically enrolled in the UNT Student Health Insurance Plan each semester of enrollment and will be assessed the appropriate cost for the insurance coverage unless a waiver is submitted and approved by the established waiver deadline through the online insurance waiver process.

### ***B. Medical Excuses***

The SHWC does not provide students with medical excuses from class unless the student is a patient being treated for a potentially contagious illness that may pose a health risk to other students, faculty, or staff; or for an injury when they are enrolled in a physical education activity class.

#### **1. Medical Excuse Due to Potentially Contagious Illness**

A medical excuse will be given to a student when they have been diagnosed with a potentially contagious disease that may pose a risk to other students, faculty, or staff, and are required to miss class for a specified number of days.

Depending on the severity of the illness, the number of days the student may be advised to miss class will be determined by the medical provider.

#### **2. Medical Excuse for an Activity Class in Physical Education**

A medical excuse will be given to a student when they are required to miss class for a specified number of days due to an injury.

Depending on the severity of the injury, the student may (1) attend class but cannot participate in the activity; or (2) attend class and participate on a moderate basis for a specified number of days, as determined by the medical provider.

#### **3. Visit Verification Forms**

When patients are seen at the SHWC for an illness or injury, they will receive a Visit Verification Form, upon request, which provides the date and time of an office visit. This will serve as verification that the student was examined by a medical provider. Departmental or individual instructor policy on class absence will determine how this verification is used.

### ***C. Termination of Services***

The SHWC delivers Services to student and faculty/staff patients based on a relationship of mutual trust and respect between the UNT healthcare provider and the patient. Occasionally this relationship may be compromised to the degree that termination of the healthcare relationship becomes necessary.

## 1. Causes for Termination of Services

Termination of Services by the SHWC will be considered in extreme circumstances. Decisions to terminate Services will be nondiscriminatory and for just cause. Just cause for termination of healthcare by the SHWC includes:

- a. persistent refusal to follow, or a history of failure to comply with, prescribed treatment, protocols, or procedures which results in negative clinical consequences;
- b. student misconduct, as defined in the UNT Code of Student Conduct, in the SHWC facility and/or directed toward SHWC workforce, patients, or visitors;
- c. faculty or staff misconduct in the SHWC facility and/or directed toward SHWC workforce, patients, or visitors; and
- d. engaging in any illegal conduct, including the use or distribution of prescription forms or sale or distribution of controlled substances.

## 2. Termination Decision & Notice

- a. The SHWC Executive Director (Director) may seek temporary suspension or permanent termination of all patient Services following consultation with SHWC staff, including other clinicians, contracted workforce, or others, as appropriate and consistent with the limits of confidential communications.
- b. Prior to taking formal action to suspend or terminate a patient from Services, the Director or delegate will notify the patient of the possibility of suspension or termination of Services at the SHWC, in writing, either electronic or hard copy. This warning letter should clearly state the conduct which may cause Services to be suspended or terminated.
- c. If conduct described in the warning letter continues, the Director or delegate will deliver notice to the patient, which states:
  - i. Services at the SHWC will be suspended or terminated on a specific date;
  - ii. a suspension will last no less than 30 days from the date of the letter, when applicable;
  - iii. the basis for the termination or suspension; and
  - iv. if continuation of Services is needed, the names of local providers who may be able to assume care.
  - v. The notice will also include an authorization for the release of SHWC medical records to a healthcare provider selected by the patient, if necessary.

### 3. Review of Decision

A patient who believes that suspension or termination of Services was in error or was unjustified may seek review of the Director's decision in accordance with [UNT Policy 07.016, Student Complaint](#).

### 4. Refunds

A student patient whose services at the SHWC are suspended or terminated may receive a refund of the collected medical services fee in accordance with published fee refund policy, if requested by the student through Student Financial Services.

### 5. Effects on Enrollment

Suspension or termination of services at the SHWC does not impact a student's enrollment status.

## ***D. Tuberculosis***

UNT is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for members of the University community by protecting students from communicable diseases. The SHWC is responsible for creating, implementing, and maintaining procedures relating to the tracking, ordering, procurement, and reporting of tuberculosis (TB) screening and testing.

### 1. TB Screening Requirements for International Students

During the first five weeks of the first semester of an international student's first attendance on campus, all incoming international students must either:

- a. Be screened and/or tested for TB; or
- b. Provide documentation using the SHWC's standard form verifying the results of TB testing with a TB blood test administered in the United States within the previous six (6) months.
  - i. Students who have been previously treated for TB may submit official copies documenting prior treatment; a copy of a chest x-ray obtained in the United States in the previous six (6) months is also required.

### 2. Consequences of Compliance Failure for International Students

International students who fail to comply with the TB testing requirements of this policy will be blocked from access to UNT registration and will not be permitted to register for future terms until the requirements of this policy have been certified and filed with the SHWC. Students will be permitted to remain enrolled during their first term of study.

## **V. Resources/Forms/Tools**

[UNT Student Health and Wellness Center](#)

[UNT Student Health Insurance Plan Waiver Request](#)

**VI. References and Cross-References**

[19 TAC Part 1, Chapter 21, Subchapter T](#)  
[Texas Education Code § 51.9192](#)  
[UNT Policy 07.016, Student Complaint](#)

**VII. Revision History**

Policy Contact:	Exec Director, Student Health and Wellness Center
Approved Date:	08/01/1990
Effective Date:	08/01/1990
Revisions:	08/01/1993, 08/01/1997, 08/01/2001, 11/01/2005, 04/06/2020, 07/31/2023