

Dual Degree Students

Important Student Health Service and Insurance Information

If you are a dual-degree student (for example, MD-MBA or SPH-SIPA), and are transferring campuses for the upcoming academic year, there is important Student Health Service and Student Health Insurance information that you should be aware of to avoid a gap in your insurance coverage.

First, if you are moving from an initial enrollment on the Morningside campus to the CUMC campus, **CUMC has additional immunization and physical requirements** that you must meet in order to register. If you wait until you arrive at CUMC, your registration will be delayed and you will be charged a fee. Click here to review the registration requirements for non-clinical students.

<http://www.cumc.columbia.edu/student/health/pre-registration.pdf>

The following information pertains to all Dual Degree students

1. The campus where you register during the fall term determines which Student Health Service and Aetna Student Health Insurance Plan will cover you for the entire academic year (even if you take classes on a different campus during the spring term). If you are at CUMC in the fall, you will remain enrolled there for the spring. Students enrolled on the Morningside campus for the fall will remain there for the spring.
2. If you waive the insurance in the fall, the waiver also continues for the entire academic year, regardless of any change in campus. The Morningside Campus plan terminates on August 31st; CUMC on August 16th.
3. Even though the insurance plan is annual, the premium (and required SHS enrollment fee) is **assessed per semester**; this does not mean you can change plans mid-year! Check your bill to be sure the correct campus fees have been charged, and contact us if they have not.
4. If you are moving from Columbia University Medical Center to the Morningside Campus for the Fall semester, **there is a gap between the two policy years**. The CUMC insurance plan terminates on August 16th, and the Morningside plan does not begin until September 1st. **You must contact the CUMC SHS Insurance Office (212-342-3953 or email eec1@columbia.edu) as soon as you know you will be switching campuses so that we can extend your insurance plan until September 1st** (you will be billed a ½-month premium and SHS fee). To avoid having an **Immunization Hold** placed on your account and preventing you from registering for classes, make sure you have submitted your immunization and any required health records BEFORE the beginning of the new semester when moving from Morningside to CUMC or CUMC to Morningside.
5. The Columbia Morningside campus offers two levels of coverage for the student insurance plan. You may select whether to enroll in the **basic** or the **comprehensive** level. If you make no selection by the enrollment deadline of September 30, you will be enrolled in the **basic level** of the plan for the full academic year. For more detailed information on enrollment and benefits please visit www.health.columbia.edu/
6. **Referrals for medical conditions must be renewed each insurance year**. If you will be enrolling on the Morningside campus, please schedule an appointment with your assigned Primary Care provider at Columbia Health to determine if a referral for continued care is indicated. Appointments may be scheduled online (<http://health.columbia.edu/appointments/overview>) or by telephone at 212-854-7426. When you change plans, referrals for mental health conditions will also need to be re-issued for continuing treatment by calling Counseling and Psychological Services at 212 854-2878. To make an appointment at CUMC, either visit the Web Portal (<https://cuhs.studenthealthportal.com/PyramedPortal/Account/Logon?ReturnUrl=%2fPyramedPortal>) or call 212-305-3400, x 1.
7. The “preferred provider network” or vendors vary based on campus location. If you will be moving to the Morningside campus, be sure to check which providers are preferred (for example, Westside Radiology for imaging services, and off campus mental health clinicians) to insure you receive maximum benefit under your insurance coverage.
8. If you believe that because of extenuating medical circumstances you should be exempt from this policy, please contact the insurance office to discuss.