NYS Public Health Law §2167 requires colleges and universities to distribute information about meningococcal disease (commonly referred to as meningitis) and the meningitis vaccine to their students. All students enrolled for at least six (6) semester hours per semester are required to complete the Meningococcal Meningitis Response Form, indicating: 1) that they have received information about meningococcal disease and 2) their status regarding the meningitis vaccine.

You are not required to get the Meningitis Vaccine. However, you are required to complete this form and return it to the Office of Admissions, NG-17, prior to registering for classes at City Tech.

STUDENT’S INFORMATION (Please Print)

Last Name: ___________________________ First Name: ___________________________

Social Security #: ______________________ Empl ID#: ___________________________

Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / ________
Month Day Year

Student’s Mailing Address: ______________________________________________________

Street Address Apt. # City State Zip Code

Telephone #: ( ___ ) ____________ E-mail: __________________________________________________________________

Check one box and sign below.

o I have read the attached information about meningococcal disease, meningitis vaccine, and the information regarding the availability and cost of the vaccine indicated below.
I have decided that I/my child will not receive the meningitis vaccine.

OR

o I have read the attached information about meningococcal disease, meningitis vaccine, and the information regarding the availability and cost of the vaccine indicated below.
I have/My child has received the meningitis vaccine within the past 10 years.

Meningitis Vaccination Date: __________________________
Month Day Year

Signed: ___________________________________________ Date: ________________
(Student) Month Day Year

Parent’s Signature required for students under the age of 18.

Signed: ___________________________________________ Date: ________________
(Parent / Guardian if student is a minor) Month Day Year

For meningitis vaccine availability, check with your primary care physician or visit the CDC Travel Clinic website: www.istm.org. The approximate cost of the meningitis vaccine is $75.
Meningococcal Disease

Information for College Students and Parents of Children at Residential Schools and Overnight Camps

What is meningococcal disease?
Meningococcal disease is a severe bacterial infection of the bloodstream or meninges (a thin lining covering the brain and spinal cord).

Who gets meningococcal disease?
Anyone can get meningococcal disease, but it is more common in infants and children. For some college students, such as freshmen living in dormitories, there is an increased risk of meningococcal disease. Between 100 and 125 cases of meningococcal disease occur on college campuses every year in the United States; between 5 and 15 college students die each year as result of infection. Currently, no data are available regarding whether children at overnight camps or residential schools are at the same increased risk for disease. However, these children can be in settings similar to college freshmen living in dormitories. Other persons at increased risk include household contacts of a person known to have had this disease, and people traveling to parts of the world where meningitis is prevalent.

How is the germ meningococcus spread?
The meningococcus germ is spread by direct close contact with nose or throat discharges of an infected person. Many people carry this particular germ in their nose and throat without any signs of illness, while others may develop serious symptoms.

What are the symptoms?
High fever, headache, vomiting, stiff neck and a rash are symptoms of meningococcal disease. Among people who develop meningococcal disease, 10-15% die, in spite of treatment with antibiotics. Of those who live, permanent brain damage, hearing loss, kidney failure, loss of arms or legs, or chronic nervous system problems can occur.

How soon do the symptoms appear?
The symptoms may appear two to 10 days after exposure, but usually within five days.

What is the treatment for meningococcal disease?
Antibiotics, such as penicillin G or ceftriaxone, can be used to treat people with meningococcal disease.

Is there a vaccine to prevent meningococcal meningitis?
Yes, a safe and effective vaccine is available. The vaccine is 85% to 100% effective in preventing four kinds of bacteria (serogroups A, C, Y, W-135) that cause about 70% of the disease in the United States. The vaccine is safe, with mild and infrequent side effects, such as redness and pain at the injection site lasting up to 2 days. After vaccination, immunity develops within 7 to 10 days and remains effective for approximately 3 to 5 years. As with any vaccine, vaccination against meningitis may not protect 100% of all susceptible individuals.

How do I get more information about meningococcal disease and vaccination?
Contact your family physician or your student health service. Additional information is also available on the websites of the New York State Department of Health, www.health.state.ny.us; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov/ncid/dbmd/diseaseinfo; and the American College Health Association, www.acha.org.