Dear Students,

Recently, Texas Senate Bill 1107, also known as the Jamie Schanbaum and Nicolis Williams Act, was enacted resulting in new regulation for bacterial meningitis vaccination requirements.

Beginning January 1 of 2012, all entering students age 30 or under enrolling in public, private, or independent institutions of higher education on or after January 1, 2012 must have received a vaccine for bacterial meningitis. The rule also applies to students who have taken a semester or more away from school.

To comply with this new regulation, all students who entering AOMA’s program after January 1, 2012 who are age 30 or under must submit proof of vaccination for bacterial meningitis. If you have not been vaccinated within the past 5 years, you can obtain the vaccine from your personal physician or from one of the providers listed in the attached document.

Evidence that you have received the vaccination or booster dose during the five-year period should be submitted to the AOMA Admissions Office in one of the following three formats:

- A document bearing the signature or stamp of the physician or his/designee, or public health personnel (must include the month, day, and year the vaccination was administered).
- An official immunization records generated from a state or local health authority (must include the month, day, and year the vaccination was administered).
- An official record received from school officials, including a record from another state (must include the month, day, and year the vaccination was administered).

If you wish to decline the vaccination you must:

- Obtain a waiver, signed by a physician who is duly registered and licensed to practice medicine in the U.S., stating that, in the physician’s opinion, the required vaccination for bacterial meningitis would be injurious to your health and wellbeing. OR
- You must sign and submit an affidavit stating that you decline the required vaccination for bacterial meningitis for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief. Information about requesting the affidavit form from DSHS is found at https://webds.dshs.state.tx.us/immco/affidavit.shtm.
  - Your signed affidavit must be notarized. Two AOMA staff members are currently public notaries: Kristen Borthwick, Registrar, and Kylie Watson, HR Compensation & Benefits Coordinator.

This required documentation must be submitted to the AOMA Admissions Office no later than 10 days before the start of term or we will be obligated to place a hold on your registration.

Please contact Justine Meccio, Director of Admissions, with questions: jmeccio@aoma.edu or (512) 492-3017.