Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)
Student Health Responsibilities

Certain occupational hazards such as infectious disease agents, chemical and pharmacological agents, radiation exposure, and physical injury may be present in the course of the DVM studies and after graduation. Although precautions are taken to protect students from these hazards, it is each individual’s personal responsibility to do all that one can to safeguard health. If a student has any health conditions that might predispose him/her to risk of injury from any of these occupational hazards, or if the student received an exemption from rabies vaccination, the student should consult with his/her personal physician for advisement to protect health, and inform the appropriate college administrator or course coordinator of specific concerns. As you consider these risks, the college urges you to take the following preventive measures.

1. **Every student must have personal health insurance.** The College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and Colorado State University do not accept any responsibility for accidental injury or other health care expenses that you may incur while enrolled as a student. Students have access to the Student Health Service for some outpatient services when it is open. After hours emergency medical care and major medical services are not provided, and the expenses for such services are each student’s responsibility. Students must enroll in the CSU Health Network health insurance plan for enrolled students or obtain comparable health insurance from the insurance carrier of personal choice. Prophylactic vaccinations are variably covered depending on the policy; each student should familiarize him/herself with extent of coverage.

2. **Every student should be immunized for tetanus.** Current public health recommendations call for a tetanus booster no less than every ten (10) years. You should review your immunization status with your physician.

3. **Every student MUST be immunized for rabies, unless an exemption is approved.** Students must complete a rabies pre-exposure vaccination series that is consistent with recommendations published by the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices ([http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-reccs/vacc-specific/rabies.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-reccs/vacc-specific/rabies.html)) within 45 days of beginning the DVM program. The rabies vaccination policy may be found at: [http://cvmbs.colostate.edu/Documents/dvm-form-rabies.pdf](http://cvmbs.colostate.edu/Documents/dvm-form-rabies.pdf)

4. **Every student should be aware of potential hazards and their personal responsibility to adhere to CSU policies and safety protocols involving self, animals, and others.** Students should be familiar with the information referred to on Page 2 of this document and seek clarification if needed.

Print Name: _________________________   ____   CSUID (not your SS#): ______________________

I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to consult with my physician to develop a plan for meeting my specific health needs and to minimize the risks of occupational hazards associated with enrollment as a DVM student. I will arrange for health insurance and be personally responsible for all health care expenses incurred while enrolled in the DVM or combined programs. I have read the information referred to on Page 2 of this document related to health risks. I voluntarily accept that these risks exist and assume the responsibility to act safely and responsibly at all times. I voluntarily waive any and all claims against the Board of Governors of the Colorado State University System and all employees, authorized volunteers or agents of CSU Fort Collins and the DVM program, related to any injury or damages incurred in activities in any way related to my activities as a DVM student.

Signature: _______________________________   ____   Date: _________________________
Information about Potential Risks Encountered
During DVM Studies

Be aware to information and links provided below, as pertinent to your area of study, and ask for clarification if needed:

- All Veterinary Students:
  - Information and Resources Related to Animals
  - VTH Policies and Procedures Related to Infection Control and Contagious Diseases
  - CDC - Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (APIC) [http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/)
  - Information about specific zoonotic diseases (Iowa State University): [http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/DiseaseInfo/](http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/DiseaseInfo/)

- All Veterinary Students Working in Laboratory Settings (Including Anatomy and Necropsy Labs):
  - General Laboratory Safety
  - Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) and Globally Harmonized System (GHS)
  - Hazard Communication Standard: Personal Protective Equipment
  - Formaldehyde Fact Sheet