

AVC Rabies Immunization Program

All students admitted to AVC are required to participate in the Rabies Immunization Program, at no additional cost, that is administered by the UPEI Student Health Centre as follows:

1. Year 1 Fall Semester: all students receive a series of three vaccinations
2. Year 3 Fall Semester: all students have a rabies blood titre evaluation performed
3. Year 3 Fall Semester: students with inadequate titres receive booster vaccinations

Students without a prior rabies vaccination history must complete Sections A, B and D of the Rabies Immunization History Form and return it to the Office of Academic and Student Affairs by early July of the admission year. Students will not be registered for Year 1 Fall Semester classes until this form is received. Students requiring vaccinations in Year 1 Fall Semester will be contacted by the Office of Academic and Student Affairs to coordinate this.

Prior Rabies Vaccinations

Students who have already received the series of three vaccinations prior to entering Year 1 Fall Semester must provide appropriate documentation and complete Sections A, B, C and D of the Rabies Immunization History Form. ***Students who have received rabies vaccinations prior to beginning the DVM program are not entitled to financial compensation from the Atlantic Veterinary College for any of these costs.*** The timing of the previous series of rabies vaccinations will determine if or when a titre is required:

- Students previously vaccinated prior to January 1st of the admission year that have proof of a protective titre within the last 12 months should enter that information in Section C of the Rabies Immunization History Form. These students will not be required to have a rabies blood titre evaluation until Year 3 Fall Semester.
- Students previously vaccinated prior to January 1st of the admission year without proof of a protective titre within the last 12 months should indicate this on the form. These students will be scheduled to have a rabies blood titre evaluation in Year 1 Fall Semester and a booster vaccination if necessary.
- Students previously vaccinated after January 1st of the admission year are not required to have a rabies blood titre evaluation until Year 3 Fall Semester.

Students will not be registered for Year 1 Fall Semester classes until their rabies vaccination status is confirmed.

Opting out of the Rabies Immunization Program

Exemption from participation in the Rabies Immunization Program may be granted in exceptional circumstances. Students wishing to opt out of the program must contact the Office of Academic and Student Affairs and provide compelling reasons as to why they are unable to participate. They will be provided with a Waiver absolving UPEI and AVC of further liability. This Waiver must be signed and returned to the Office of Academic and Student Affairs and students will not be registered for Year 1 Fall Semester classes until their rabies vaccination status is confirmed. Students opting out of the Rabies Immunization Program should be advised that their ability to participate in external clinical rotation opportunities at other institutions or practices during the fourth year will be extremely limited.