

School of Veterinary Medicine

PO Box 3030  
Gurabo, Puerto Rico 00778  
(787) 749-7373, ext. 4063

## **NORMATIVE OF IMMUNIZATION AGAINST RABIES**

This normative is designed to ensure that all faculty, students, and staff of the School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM) at Universidad Ana G. Méndez (UAGM) who work with animals and animal tissues are protected from exposure to rabies. All faculty, students, and staff at the SVM UAGM who are at risk of being exposed to rabies will be required to be immunized against rabies.

All DVM students are required to be fully immunized against the rabies virus and to provide evidence of completion “prior to the admission or during pre-clinical coursework and may offer subsequent titers prior to graduation” as recommended by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) (<https://www.avma.org/rabies-pre-exposure-vaccination-and-titers-veterinarians>). The AVMA states that “Failure to complete the series puts you at risk of incomplete protection if exposed to rabies.” If the titers resulted below the result provided by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) guidelines, the student must receive a booster and submit proof of a positive titer following immunization. Students who decline to get vaccinated against rabies will not be allowed to enroll AVET, BVET or DVMP courses at the School of Veterinary Medicine of the Universidad Ana G. Méndez. The student will be fully responsible for the cost of the rabies vaccine and must submit the evidence of the vaccines at least 15 days before enrolling in the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program.

For Veterinary Technology programs student must submit evidence of vaccines within 45 days of enrollment of first semester. Students who do not comply with the immunization requirement within the specified time frame will be unable to continue in the program.