

Overview of EMPOWER Health Records Features

ABSTRACT

EMPOWER supports the management of student medical and health information. It enables administrators to track pertinent medical history, immunizations, tests, and other data needed to admit a student to the institution or program, and enroll students in classes.

Requirements and data types such as test or immunization name, results, dates, number of repeats required, and required re-tests are user-defined. General medical history (clinic visits, allergies, childhood diseases, injuries, etc.) can also be recorded. Reports and query displays alert administrators to requirements not met or requirements coming due. Holds can be placed on student academic actions based on the status of required health reporting.

Appropriate safeguards for HIPAA are provided by EMPOWER's overall access and security system. Only approved individuals have access to this information.

Medical and health features reside primarily as Records and Registration Module functions, but are presented initially in the Admissions Tracking Module to account for pre-admission requirements.

BENEFITS

- Provides a single repository for student health data as related to the academic process
- Ties health information to central student recordkeeping so data integrity is maintained throughout the institution
- Ties required health information to student academic actions such as registration and attendance in class
- Students and staff have visibility to health reporting requirements and associated dates, consequences, etc.
- Provides a secure environment for sensitive data and HIPAA compliance
- Enables full reporting and analysis of data

FUNCTIONS

Several user-defined data elements identify and manage health information as follows:

- Table of medical conditions, tests, immunizations, etc.
- Status codes related to the conditions (positive, negative, passed, mild, contagious, acute, complete, first/second/third of a series, etc.)
- Dates associated with the conditions, test, immunizations, etc.
- Dates associated with the repeat of a procedure (such as a booster) based on a pre-set interval if appropriate
- Off-set date indicating how many days before or after the start of a term the requirement must be met
- Comments sections for free-form remarks
- A medical profile to associate a set of medical requirements with a student type (such as a physical therapy or nursing student)
 - Medical or health condition required
 - Required status code for fulfilling the requirement
- Medical communications tracking and missing document notifications

Implementing the medical features requires these steps:

- Determination of campus policies for medical/health data management
- Populating the tables as noted above
- Setting up appropriate student-type medical requirements profiles
- Identifying each affected student as a member of the profile group for an academic term (term roll over applies)
- Criteria regarding holds, waivers, and overrides must be determined
- Development of “missing document” letters and procedures
- On-going data capture