



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, D C

July 2005

Dear American University Students:

In the Fall 2005 semester, you will experience many new and exciting changes if you access health care at the AU Student Health Center. The first floor of McCabe Hall has been completely renovated to house the Student Health Center. This new space will allow us to implement many service improvements. Improvements include:

- Increased staffing, including expanded physician coverage
- Dispensary and expanded formulary, allowing for the availability of some commonly prescribed drugs at low cost
- Laboratory for specimen collection and testing in routine cases
- Designated space for specialty care
- Large exam rooms which are designed to ensure optimal patient comfort and privacy
- Large, comfortable waiting room
- Expanded health education services including a resource library

In August of 2005, we will also implement a revised **fee schedule** designed to keep costs to students as low as possible. We will continue to charge students discounted rates for medical care and ancillary services. Students will also pay a modest visit fee. The rates per visit will be \$10 for those students enrolled in the AU insurance plan and \$15 for those who are not enrolled in the AU insurance plan. The complete fee schedule will be available on our Website by July 31, 2005.

Remember that **health insurance** (either the AU Student Health Insurance Plan or a comparable plan) is required for all full-time degree, resident, and international students on the F1 or J1 visas. The premium for the upcoming plan year (August 21, 2005 – August 20, 2006) is \$1165. You will be automatically billed for the AU Student Health Insurance Plan unless you complete an online waiver by following the instructions at <http://www.american.edu/ocl/healthcenter>. You must waive the AU Student Health Insurance Plan every year that you are enrolled at AU and are in a required category. Before deciding to waive the AU Plan, please compare your current coverage with the coverage provided by the AU Plan so that you can make the best choice for coverage. You can utilize the worksheet on our Website to perform this comparison. Additional information on the Student Health Insurance Plan can be obtained by visiting [www.chickering.com](http://www.chickering.com). Students

who have previously enrolled and are continuing in the plan should be advised of the changes to the plan. You can view these changes by the visiting the Student Health Center Website at <http://www.american.edu/ocl/healthcenter> and clicking on 2005-2006 Insurance Updates.

The Student Health Center is also pleased to make the **Tuition Refund Plan (TRP)** from A.W.G. Dewar, Inc. available as an option for students and parents. The Tuition Refund Plan is a private insurance program that enhances American University's published refund policy. Subscribers are eligible for a refund even though the University's own refund policy may have expired at the time of withdrawal. Information about this affordable plan can be obtained by visiting [www.collegerefund.com](http://www.collegerefund.com). We urge you to strongly consider this plan so that you will be protected from financial hardship in the event of a withdrawal due to unexpected injury, sickness, or psychological conditions.

Our process to document **immunization** is being streamlined to ensure compliance with the DC regulations. Students under the age of 26 who attend school in the District of Columbia must be immunized against measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, diphtheria, varicella (Chicken Pox), and hepatitis B (series of 3 shots). Go to the Student Health Center Website at <http://www.american.edu/ocl/healthcenter> for more information on immunization requirements and to obtain the form necessary to document immunizations.

The Student Health Center strongly recommends vaccination against meningococcal disease which can lead to **meningitis**. This vaccination is especially important for students in residence. Information on meningococcal disease is available on our Website at <http://www.american.edu/ocl/healthcenter>. We also recommend that students obtain a **TB test**, particularly if they intend to volunteer in the community in settings where proof of a TB test may be required. Both of these services are available at the Student Health Center.

Our goal is to help students remain healthy so they are able to pursue their studies at American University. Our new facility, additional staff members, and service improvements will help us fulfill that goal.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

Daniel L. Bruey  
Director