Congratulations on your acceptance to Haverford College! The Health Services staff is delighted you will be joining us in August and we are looking forward to getting to know you. The following information outlines the services provided at the Student Health Center, along with details about submitting the necessary health forms as well as health insurance requirements.

**Who We Are**

**Health Services** provides primary health care, with office visits, laboratory, and pharmacy services billed directly to the student’s health insurance plan. We are staffed by a team of nurse practitioners, a family physician, sport medicine physician, a registered nurse, a substance abuse counselor, and dietician. Services include preventive health screening, immunizations, travel health, episodic illness care, medication, nutritional counseling, sports medicine care, reproductive care, contraceptive management, and allergy clinic. Please make sure your student brings a copy of their insurance card to college. Haverford One Card account, check, cash, or credit card can pay deductibles, co-payments, or other charges.

Mental health services and care are provided through **Counseling and Psychological Services Department** (CAPS). CAPS provides services through a team of psychologists, a counselor, a consulting psychiatrist, and a number of advanced-level interns. It is our goal to provide quality services that are non-judgmental and respectful of the student’s privacy. Health Services works closely with medical specialists in the community who assist us in providing specialty care.

Emergency care is available at the Main Line Health System at **Bryn Mawr Hospital**, located five minutes from campus. If your student has any special housing, diet, or accommodation needs please contact the appropriate office directly.

**Homework (Yes, already!)**

All incoming students are required to register and create a **personal portal account**. It enables students to manage their health care in conjunction with Health Services staff. All required matriculation **health forms** including a copy of their health insurance card must be uploaded in the HaverHealth portal (Deadline July 21). Students can log on with their Haverford email address and student ID number. The portal system is private; students can receive secure email messages, print laboratory results, and immunization records.

It is both Pennsylvania State Law and the policy of Haverford College that students complete a physical exam form, immunization record, and a sickle cell trait lab result, which must be uploaded in the portal prior to obtaining housing on campus, attending class, participating in varsity team athletics, or joining any of the Haverford College orientation programs. Sorry, no
paper copies accepted. A late fee of $75 for failure to submit completed health forms will be charged after deadline, no exceptions. Once Health Services receives all online portal forms, the student will be notified via the portal’s secure messaging regarding any problem, concern or missing information.

**Insurance Requirements**

The College bills for the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) through the Business Office. All international visa-carrying students are required to carry U.S.-based student insurance coverage and are not permitted to waive the plan. Domestic students can waive the SHIP online if their insurance meets the U.S. government’s requirements of a basic ACA insurance that is effective in the Philadelphia area.

Private health insurance plans, including HMOs, may not provide coverage for non-emergency, out of network medical care (including laboratory services, radiology services, and specialist care) or may require prior authorization from the student’s primary care provider. It is your responsibility to check with your health insurance company to ensure that your current health insurance plan will cover medical services while your student attends Haverford College. Please be aware that Health Services will bill the student’s insurance for service, care, medications, immunizations, and supplies that we provide. Students are responsible for all bills related to outside laboratory tests, x-rays, prescription medications, emergency room, urgent care center visits, ambulance transport fees, and visits to medical specialists.

Should you need insurance or have a change in coverage at any point during the school year, you must notify Health Services of the change in writing within 30 days of the change. This accommodation for a ‘life-qualifying event’ enables the student to enroll in a new insurance plan in the Marketplace or through the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP). For college student options please review [this link](#).

Information on the SHIP Plan can be found [here](#). When making a decision to waive student health insurance, please consider whether your current insurance plan covers medical care beyond emergency services in the greater Philadelphia area. Adequate coverage is essential to avoid out-of-pocket expenses or delays in accessing health care in the event it becomes necessary. In addition, consider whether administrative pre-certification or primary care provider referrals are required under your current plan that may delay receipt of care.

We are pleased that you will be joining our community, and wish you a happy and healthy learning experience. If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at 610-896-1089 or email us at [hc-healthservices@haverford.edu](mailto:hc-healthservices@haverford.edu).

Sincerely,
Catherine Sharbaugh, DNP, Director of Health Services