

Regulation

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

Applicability

These regulations shall apply to all pupils attending any school in this district, including child care centers, nursery school and kindergartens.

Proof of Immunizations

The superintendent shall not knowingly admit or retain any pupil who has not submitted acceptable evidence of immunization according to the schedule specified by the State of New Jersey except when there are exemptions as noted below.

Medical Exemptions

- A. A pupil shall not be required to have any specific immunizations(s) which are medically contraindicated;
- B. A pupil will be exempt from a specific immunization(s) by a written statement from any physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in any jurisdiction in the United States stating:

That an immunization is medically contraindicated for a specific period of time, the reason(s) for the medical contraindication (based on standards of the current Red book or Academy of Pediatrics Statements);

- C. The physician's statement shall be maintained by the school as part of the immunization record of the pupil. This statement will be reviewed annually by the school personnel to confirm with the medical provider that the medical condition for the exemption still exists. Local and state health officials will verify validity when necessary;
- D. This exemption may be suspended by the state commissioner of health during the existence of an emergency as determined by the state commissioner of health.

Religious Exemptions

- A. A pupil shall be exempted from mandatory immunizations if the parent/guardian objects in a written statement submitted to the school and signed by the parent/guardian explaining how the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with the free exercise of the pupil's religious rights;
- B. This statement will be kept by the school as part of the pupil's immunization record;
- C. This exemption may be suspended by the state commissioner of health during the existence of an emergency as determined by the state commissioner of health.

Provisional Admission to School

- A. A pupil may be admitted to school on a provisional basis if a physician or health department can document that at least one dose of each required vaccine(s) or antigen(s) which are age appropriate has been administered and that the pupil is in the process of receiving the remaining immunizations;
- B. Such provisional admission shall be for a reasonable period of time but shall not exceed one year;

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- C. Provisional status shall be granted only one time to pupils entering or transferring into schools in New Jersey;
- D. Pupils transferring in shall be allowed a 30 day grace period in order to obtain past immunization documentation before provisional status shall begin;
- E. This exemption may be suspended by the state commissioner of health during the existence of an emergency as determined by the state commissioner of health.

Documents Accepted as Evidence of Immunization

The following documents will be accepted as evidence of a pupil's immunization history provided that the type of immunization and the date when each immunization was administered is listed:

- A. An official school record from any school or preschool facility indicating compliance with the immunization requirements;
- B. A record from any public health department indicating compliance with the immunization requirements;
- C. A certificate signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in any jurisdiction of the United States indicating compliance with the immunization requirements;
- D. All immunization records submitted by a parent/guardian in a language other than English shall be accompanied by a translation sufficient to determine compliance with the immunization requirements.
- E. The official record of immunization from the New Jersey Immunization Information System indicating compliance with immunization requirements.

Records Required

- A. The school shall maintain a record of immunization for every pupil which shall include the date of each individual immunization;
- B. If a pupil withdraws, is promoted, or transfers to another school or child care facility this immunization record, or a certified copy thereof, shall be sent to the new school or be given to the parent/guardian upon request. The immunization record, or a copy thereof, will be retained a minimum of one year after the pupil has left.

Reports to be Sent to the State Department of Health

- A. A report of the immunization status of the pupils in the school shall be sent each year to the State Department of Health by the Principal, or other person in charge of the school;
- B. The form for this report will be provided by the State Department of Health;
- C. This report shall be submitted each year and is due as determined by the state, of the respective academic year after a review of all appropriate immunization records;
- D. A copy of this report shall be sent to the local board of health.

Records Available for Inspection

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The superintendent shall make all immunization records available for inspection by authorized representatives of the State Department of Health or the local board of health within 24 hours of notification.

See Exhibit of Required Immunizations according to Chapter 14 of the NEW JERSEY STATE SANITARY CODE-IMMUNIZATION OF PUPILS IN SCHOOLS (Effective March 2008)

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