

## STUDENTS

### ATTENDANCE - HEALTH, DENTAL, AND EYE EXAMINATIONS, IMMUNIZATIONS AND EXCLUSION OF STUDENTS

#### Health Examinations and Immunizations

All children in Illinois must have a health examination within one year prior to:

1. Entering school (this includes students entering special education and/or prekindergarten programs operated by the District, and students transferring into Illinois from outside of the State or outside of the country);
2. Entering kindergarten and/or first grade; and
3. Entering sixth grade.

At the following times, parent(s)/guardian(s) must present proof that their child has received the required health examinations (as referenced above) and immunizations against and screenings for preventable communicable diseases (as required by Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Rules):

- Prior to entering a pre-kindergarten program (including a special education program) operated by the District (physical and immunizations)
- Prior to entering kindergarten and/or first grade (physical and immunizations)
- Upon entering sixth grade (physical and immunizations)
- Whenever a student first enrolls in school within the District, regardless of the student's grade (physical and immunizations)

In addition, annual physical examinations are required for students wishing to try out for, practice, or participate in interscholastic sports.

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grade six.

#### As Required by State Law:

1. All physical examinations must be performed by a licensed M.D. (Doctor of Medicine), D.O. (Doctor of Osteopathy), licensed Advanced Practice Nurse, or licensed Physician Assistant. Proof of required physical examinations and immunizations must be recorded on report forms issued by the IDPH and/or the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). Out-of-state physicals can be accepted at the time of first entry if they have been performed within one year and are on a comparable Illinois form. Said report forms must be completed and signed by the M.D., D.O., Advanced Practice Nurse or Physician Assistant, as applicable, and submitted to the District. If a registered nurse performs any part of a health examination, the physician must review and sign all required report forms.

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2. A diabetes screening is a required part of each health examination; diabetes testing is not required.
3. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, an age-appropriate developmental screening and an age-appropriate social and emotional screening are required parts of each health examination. A student will not be excluded from school due to his or her parent/guardian's failure to obtain a developmental screening or a social and emotional screening.
4. Before admission and in conjunction with required physical examinations, parents/guardians of children between the ages of one and seven years must provide a statement from a physician that their child was "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning.
5. The IDPH will provide all female students entering sixth grade and their parents/guardians information about the link between human papilloma virus (HPV) and cervical cancer and the availability of HPV vaccine.

Prior to the first day of the school term, students must submit proof of having had the required health examination and immunizations. If for medical reasons one or more of the required immunizations must be given after the first day of the school term, then the student must present, by the first day of the school term, a schedule for the administration of the immunizations and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. Both the schedule and statement must be issued by the physician, advanced practice nurse, physician assistant, registered nurse, or local health department that will be responsible for administering the remaining required immunizations.

If a student fails to comply by the first day of the school term with the requirements identified in the above paragraph, then the District will exclude the student from school until the student presents proof of having had the required health examination and those required immunizations that are medically possible to receive immediately.

During a student's exclusion from school for noncompliance with the requirements identified above, the student's parents or legal guardian will be considered to be in violation of *School Code* Section 26-1 (relating to compulsory school attendance) and subject to any penalty imposed by *School Code* Section 26-10 (relating to permitting truancy).

If the student is an out-of-state transfer student and does not have the proof required under this policy by the first day of the school term, then he or she may only attend classes if he or she has proof that an appointment for the required vaccinations has been scheduled with a party authorized to submit proof of the required vaccinations. If the proof of vaccination is not submitted within 30 days after the student is permitted to attend classes, then the student will not be permitted to attend classes until proof of the vaccinations has been properly submitted.

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The District will provide parents/guardians with written notice of the health examination and immunization requirements, at least 60 days prior to the first day of the school term. A sample notice is contained in Appendix A.

All new students who are first-time registrants shall have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization regulations. However, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of such students must sign a temporary consent for their child's participation in physical education which will be effective until the physical examination has been completed and filed with the student's records.

District staff may require that parent(s)/guardian(s) obtain additional physical examinations for their children when deemed necessary in order to assure the student's health and the health and welfare of other students and staff.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be expected to notify the school of any allergies to food or drugs or other physical needs their child may have. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are encouraged to have their child undergo an eye examination whenever health examinations are required.

#### Dental Examinations

All children in kindergarten, second grade and sixth grade must have a dental examination. Parent(s)/guardian(s) of such students must present proof that the student has been examined by a licensed dentist, in accordance with IDPH Rules, before May 15 of the school year. Proof of required dental examinations must be recorded on report forms issued by the IDPH and/or the ISBE. Said report forms must be completed and signed by a licensed dentist, and submitted to the District.

If a child in the second or sixth grade fails to present proof of a dental exam by May 15, the school may hold the child's report card until one of the following occurs: (1) the child presents proof of a completed dental examination, or (2) the child presents proof that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15.

The dental examination requirement may be waived for children who demonstrate an undue burden or lack of access to a dentist, in accordance with rules established by the IDPH.

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#### Eye Examinations

All children enrolling in kindergarten, and any student enrolling in a school for the first time, must have an eye examination. Before October 15 of the school year, parent(s)/guardian(s) of such students must present proof that the student has been examined, within the previous year, by a licensed optometrist or a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, in accordance with IDPH rules and Section 27-8.1 of the Illinois *School Code*. Proof of required eye examinations must be recorded on report forms issued by the IDPH and/or the ISBE. Said report forms must be completed and signed by a licensed optometrist or a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, and submitted to the District.

For purposes of this Section, an eye examination shall at a minimum include history, visual acuity, subjective refraction to best visual acuity near and far, internal and external examination, and a glaucoma evaluation, as well as any other tests or observations that in the professional judgment of the doctor are necessary.

If a child is required to present proof of an eye exam but fails to do so by October 15, the school may hold the child's report card until one of the following occurs: (1) the child presents proof of a completed eye examination, or (2) the child presents proof that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15.

The eye examination requirement may be waived for children who demonstrate an undue burden or lack of access to a licensed optometrist or a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations, in accordance with rules established by the IDPH.

#### Exemption on Religious or Medical Grounds

Children of parents or legal guardians who object to health, dental, or eye examinations or any part thereof, to immunizations, or to vision and hearing screening tests on religious grounds shall not be required to undergo the examinations, tests, or immunizations to which they so object if such parents or legal guardians present to the District a signed IDPH Certificate of Religious Exemption detailing the grounds for objection and the specific immunizations, tests, or examinations to which they object. A sample Certificate of Religious Exemption is contained in Appendix B. The grounds for objection must set forth the specific religious belief that conflicts with the examination, test, immunization, or other medical intervention. The signed Certificate of Religious Exemption shall also reflect the parent's or legal guardian's understanding of the District's exclusion policies in the case of a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak or exposure.

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The religious objection stated in the Certificate of Religious Exemption need not be directed by the tenets of an established religious organization. However, general philosophical or moral reluctance to allow physical examinations, eye examinations, immunizations, vision and hearing screenings, or dental examinations does not provide a sufficient basis for an exception to applicable statutory requirements.

The Certificate of Religious Exemption must also be signed by the authorized examining health care provider responsible for the performance of the child's health examination confirming that the provider provided education to the parent or legal guardian on the benefits of immunization and the health risks to the student and to the community of the communicable diseases for which immunization is required in this State. However, the health care provider's signature on the certificate reflects only that education was provided and does not allow a health care provider grounds to determine a religious exemption. The District is responsible for determining if the content of the Certificate of Religious Exemption constitutes a valid religious objection.

Parents or legal guardians must submit the Certificate of Religious Exemption to the District prior to entering pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and sixth grade, for each child for which they are requesting an exemption.

The District shall inform the parent or legal guardian of exclusion procedures, in accordance with the Department's rules under Part 690 of Title 77 of the Illinois Administrative Code, at the time the objection is presented.

If the physical condition of the child is such that any one or more of the immunizing agents should not be administered, the examining physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant responsible for the performance of the health examination shall endorse that fact upon the health examination form.

Exempting a child from the health, dental, or eye examination does not exempt the child from participation in the District's program of physical education training.

### Homeless Child

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce immunization and health records normally required for enrollment.

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AND EXCLUSION OF STUDENTSNotices, Forms, and Records

The school staff shall apprise parent(s)/guardian(s) of their obligations under this policy, shall furnish the necessary forms, and shall keep records of compliance. On or before March 16 of each school year, the School District will provide notice of the dental examination requirement to parents and guardians. Notice of the eye examination requirement will be given in accordance with the rules of the IDPH.

LEGAL REF.: Illinois School Code, 5/27-8.1 and 45/1-20 27-8.1 (105 ILCS 5/27-8.1 and 45/1- 20);  
Illinois Lead Poisoning Prevention Act, Sec. 7.1 (410 ILCS 45/7.1and 315/2e);  
McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq.;  
23 Ill. Admin Code §1.530  
77 Ill. Admin Code Part 665  
77 Ill. Admin Code Part 690

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