

HEALTH EXAMINATION, IMMUNIZATIONS, AND COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Health Examination Requirement

The parent or legal guardian of a student shall present proof of their child's physical examination, protection from communicable disease, and vision and hearing screening prior to the date of entrance to school. Dental examinations, lead screening, and diabetes screening are required as part of the health examination.

Health examinations shall be performed by, and the Certificate of Child Health Examination shall be signed by, a physician licensed to practice in all branches of medicine, an advanced practice nurse or a physician assistant working under the direction of a supervising physician.

Timetable for Examinations

- a) The examination shall be conducted within one year:
 - 1) Prior to the date of first entry into school (including students transferring into Illinois from outside of the State or outside of the country);
 - 2) Prior to the date of entering kindergarten or first grade/or age 5;
 - 3) Prior to the date of entering the sixth grade/or age 11;
 - 4) Prior to the date of entering the ninth grade/or age 15.
- b) Additional health examinations and further evaluations of students may be required when deemed necessary by local school authority.

Report Forms

The required form is the Certificate of Child Health Examination provided by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

- a) For transfer students from out of the State or out of the country, a health form that is comparable to the Illinois requirements may be accepted only at the time of first entry into an Illinois school
- b) The physical examination shall include an evaluation of height, weight, BMI, blood pressure, skin, eyes, ears, nose, throat, mouth/dental, cardiovascular (including blood pressure), respiratory, gastrointestinal, genito-urinary, neurological, musculoskeletal, spinal examination, nutritional status, TB, lead screening, and other evaluations deemed necessary by the health care provider.

Lead Screening

Lead screening is a required part of the health examination for children age six years or younger prior to admission to kindergarten or first grade. Physicians and other health care providers shall also screen children age six years and older for lead poisoning when the child is potentially at high risk of lead poisoning.

Diabetes Screening

A diabetes screening shall be included as a required part of each health examination. Diabetes screening is the assessment of an asymptomatic individual for risk factors for the purpose of identifying whether the individual is likely to have diabetes.

Vision and Hearing Screening

Vision and hearing screening are required, but completion of the hearing and vision screening data section of the Certificate of Child Health Examination is optional.

Eye Examination Requirement

All children enrolling in kindergarten or any student enrolling for the first time in school shall have an eye examination. Children shall present proof of having been examined within the previous year by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches or a licensed optometrist. The Illinois Department of Public Health Eye Examination form must be submitted to the school before October 15th of the school year.

Dental Examination Requirement

All children in kindergarten and the second and sixth grades shall have a dental examination performed by a licensed dentist. The examination must have taken place within 18 months prior to May 15 of the school year and the Illinois Department of Public Health Proof of School Dental Examination Form submitted to the school.

Immunizations

Every child shall present proof to the local school authority of having received immunizations against preventable communicable diseases prior to the date of entrance to school.

- a) Every child prior to enrolling in school shall present proof of immunity against:
 - 1) Diphtheria
 - 2) Pertussis
 - 3) Tetanus
 - 4) Poliomyelitis
 - 5) Measles
 - 6) Rubella
 - 7) Mumps
 - 8) Haemophilus influenza type b
 - 9) Hepatitis B
 - 10) Varicella

A child shall be considered in compliance with the immunization requirement if all applicable immunizations that a child can medically receive are given prior to entering school. The local school authority shall monitor immunization schedules to assure their completion.

Religious Objection

The parent or legal guardian of a student may object to health examinations, immunizations, vision and hearing screening tests, eye and dental examinations for their child on religious grounds. If a religious objection is made, a written and signed statement from the parent or legal guardian detailing such objections must be presented to the local school authority. The objection must set forth the specific religious belief which conflicts with the examination, immunization or other medical intervention. The religious objection may be personal and need not be directed by the tenets of an established religious organization. A general philosophical or moral reluctance to allow examinations will not provide a sufficient basis for an exception to statutory requirements. The local school authority is responsible for determining whether the written statement constitutes a valid religious objection.

Medical Objection

- a) Any medical objection to an immunization must be:
 - 1) Made by a physician licensed to practice in all branches of medicine indicating what the medical condition is,
 - 2) Endorsed and signed by the physician on the certificate of child health examination and placed on file in the child's permanent record.
- b) Should the condition of the child later permit immunization, this requirement will then have to be met.

Compliance with the School Code

The responsibility for monitoring compliance is the student's school district of residence, except for students placed at the Marjorie Ureche Early Childhood Center, Laremont School, Gages Lake School, Sally Potter School, Cyd Lash Academy, and John Powers Center. New students enrolling in a SEDOL school must show proof of a compliant health examination and immunization schedule before entry. Current SEDOL students must be compliant on or before the October 15th exclusion date. Registered SEDOL students, transferring into a SEDOL school from a district SEDOL program after the October 15th deadline, will be given 30 calendar days to complete the health examination and immunizations requirements. Non-compliance will result in exclusion from school.