

#5120.3

**Health Assessments/Screenings and
Oral Health Assessments
(formerly Health Services)**

Health Assessments

The Madison Board of Education (the “Board”) requires each student enrolled in the Madison Public Schools (the “District”) to undergo health assessments as mandated by state law. The purpose of such health assessments shall be to ascertain whether a student has any physical disability tending to prevent ~~him/her~~ the student from receiving the full benefit of school work and to ascertain whether school work should be modified in order to prevent injury to the student or to secure a suitable program of education for ~~him/her~~ the student. Such health assessments must be conducted by one of the following qualified providers for health assessments: (1) a legally qualified practitioner of medicine; (2) an advanced practice registered nurse or registered nurse, who is licensed under state statute; (3) a physician assistant, who is licensed under state statute; (4) the school medical advisor; or (5) a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, an advanced practice registered nurse or a physician assistant stationed at any military base. The Board will provide written prior notice of the health assessments required under these administrative regulations to the parent or guardian of each student subject to assessment. The parent or guardian shall be provided a reasonable opportunity to be present during such assessment or ~~he/she~~ the parent or guardian may provide for such assessment ~~him/herself~~. No health assessment shall be made of any public school student unless it is made in the presence of the parent or guardian or in the presence of another school employee. Any student who fails to obtain the health assessments required by these administrative regulations may be denied continued attendance in the District.

Health Assessments Required

~~The Board recognizes that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, “well” child appointments (“Health Appointments”) with qualified health care practitioners have been subject to cancellation and may be limited in availability prior to and during the 2020-2021 school~~

32

33 ~~year. Due to the unavailability of Health Appointments, there may be barriers for a~~
34 ~~student to obtain a required health assessment even if the student's parents or guardians~~
35 ~~make every attempt to schedule the Health Appointment.~~

36

37 ~~The Board is permitted to deny attendance to a student who fails to obtain health~~
38 ~~assessments required by law and Board policy. However, during the 2020-2021 school~~
39 ~~year given the unavailability of Health Appointments due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the~~
40 ~~Board is prioritizing keeping students in school where possible. The Board recognizes~~
41 ~~that being present in the classroom is especially important during the 2020-2021 school~~
42 ~~year due to the cancellation of classes in the spring of the 2019-2020 school year.~~
43 ~~Accordingly, the District administration, when appropriate, will work with parents and~~
44 ~~guardians to have a Health Appointment scheduled as soon as possible rather than deny~~
45 ~~attendance to a student. In addition, as set forth herein, the Board has provided for~~
46 ~~temporary flexibility regarding the submission of required health assessments in light of~~
47 ~~the COVID-19 pandemic.~~

48

49 Prior to enrollment in the District, or as soon as possible thereafter, each student must
50 undergo a health assessment, which shall include:

51 (a) a physical examination which includes hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height,
52 weight, blood pressure, and a chronic disease assessment which shall include, but
53 not be limited to, asthma. The assessment form shall include (A) a check box for
54 the provider conducting the assessment, to indicate an asthma diagnosis, (B)
55 screening questions relating to appropriate public health concerns to be answered
56 by the parent or guardian, and (C) screening questions to be answered by such
57 provider;

58 (b) an updating of immunizations as required by state law;

59 (c) vision, hearing, speech and gross dental screenings;

60 (d) such other information, including health and developmental history, as the
61 physician feels is necessary and appropriate.

62 The pre-enrollment assessment shall also include tests for tuberculosis, sickle cell anemia
63 or Cooley’s anemia, and tests for lead levels in the blood if, after consultation with the
64 school medical advisor and the local health department, the Board determines that such
65 tests are necessary. Such tests must be conducted by a registered nurse acting pursuant to
66 the written order of a physician, or physician’s assistant, licensed under state law, or an
67 advanced practice registered nurse, licensed under state law.

68 Each student enrolled in the District must undergo a health assessment when entering
69 grade six and when entering grade ten, which shall include:

70 (a) a physical examination which includes hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height,
71 weight, blood pressure, and a chronic disease assessment which shall include, but
72 not be limited to, asthma as defined by the Commissioner of Public Health
73 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 19a-62a of the Connecticut General Statutes.
74 The assessment form shall include (A) a check box for the provider conducting
75 the assessment, to indicate an asthma diagnosis, (B) screening questions relating
76 to appropriate public health concerns to be answered by the parent or guardian,
77 and (C) screening questions to be answered by such provider;

78 (b) an updating of immunizations as required by state law;

79 (c) vision, hearing, postural and gross dental screenings;

80 (d) such other information, including health and developmental history, as the
81 physician feels is necessary and appropriate.

82 The grade six and grade ten assessments shall also include tests for tuberculosis and
83 sickle cell anemia or Cooley’s anemia if, after consultation with the school medical
84 advisor and the local health department, the Board determines that such tests are
85 necessary. Such tests must be conducted by a registered nurse acting pursuant to the
86 written order of a physician, or physician’s assistant, licensed under state law, or of an
87 advanced practice registered nurse, licensed under state law.

88 The Board of Education shall provide such assessments free of charge to students whose
89 parents or guardians meet the eligibility requirements for free and reduced price meals
90 under the National School Lunch Program or for free milk under the special milk
91 program.

92 **Oral Health Assessments**

93 A. Prior to enrollment in the District, or as soon as possible thereafter, in grade six
94 and in grade ten, the Board shall request that each student undergo an oral health
95 assessment. Such oral health assessments must be conducted by one of the
96 following qualified providers for oral health assessments: (1) a dentist licensed
97 under state law; (2) a dental hygienist licensed under state law; (3) a legally
98 qualified practitioner of medicine trained in conducting oral health assessments as
99 a part of a training program approved by the Commissioner of Public Health; (4) a
100 physician assistant licensed under state law and trained in conducting oral health
101 assessments as part of a training program approved by the Commissioner of
102 Public Health; or (5) an advanced practice registered nurse licensed under state
103 statute and trained in conducting oral health assessments as part of a training
104 program approved by the Commissioner of Public Health.

105 B. The oral health assessment identified in subsection A above shall include a dental
106 examination by a dentist, or a visual screening and risk assessment for oral health
107 conditions by a dental hygienist, legally qualified practitioner of medicine,
108 physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse. The assessment form
109 shall include a check box for the qualified provider conducting the assessment to
110 indicate any low, moderate or high-risk factors associated with any dental or
111 orthodontic appliance, saliva, gingival condition, visible plaque, tooth
112 demineralization, carious lesions, restorations, pain, swelling or trauma.

113 C. No oral health assessment shall be made of any public school student unless the
114 parent or guardian of the student consents to such assessment and such assessment
115 is made in the presence of the parent or guardian or in the presence of another
116 school employee. The parent or guardian shall be provided with prior written

117 notice of an oral health assessment and be provided with a reasonable opportunity
118 to opt ~~his/her~~ the child out of such assessment, or the parent or guardian may
119 provide for such oral health assessment ~~him or herself~~.

120 D. If the Board of Education hosts a free oral health assessment event where
121 qualified providers (identified in subsection A above) perform oral health
122 assessments of children attending a public school, the Board shall notify the
123 parents and guardians of such children of the event in advance and provide an
124 opportunity for parents and guardians to opt their child(ren) out of such event.
125 The Board shall infer parent/guardian consent for each child whose parent or
126 guardian did not opt ~~him or her~~ the child out of the free oral health assessment
127 event and shall provide such child with a free oral health assessment; however,
128 such child shall not receive dental treatment of any kind unless the child's parent
129 or guardian provides informed consent for such treatment.

130 E. Any student who fails to obtain an oral health assessment requested by the Board
131 shall not be denied enrollment or continued attendance in the District.

132 **Screenings Required**

133 The Board will provide annually to each student enrolled in kindergarten and grades one
134 and three to five, inclusive, a vision screening. Such vision screening may be performed
135 using a Snellen chart or an equivalent screening device, ~~such as~~ or an automated vision
136 screening device. The Superintendent shall give written notice to the parent or guardian
137 of each student (1) who is found to have any defect of vision or disease of the eyes, with a
138 brief statement describing the defect or disease and a recommendation that the student be
139 examined by an optometrist or ophthalmologist licensed pursuant to state law, and (2)
140 who did not receive such vision screening, with a brief statement explaining why such
141 ~~pupil~~ student did not receive such vision screening.

142 The Board will provide annually to each student enrolled in kindergarten and grades one
143 and three through five, inclusive, audiometric screening for hearing. The Superintendent
144 shall give written notice to the parent or guardian of each student (1) who is found to have
145 any impairment or defect of hearing, with a brief statement describing the impairment or

146 defect, and (2) who did not receive an audiometric screening for hearing, with a brief
147 statement explaining why such student did not receive an audiometric screening for
148 hearing.

149 The Board will provide postural screenings for (1) each female student in grades five and
150 seven, and (2) each male student in grade eight or nine. The Superintendent shall give
151 written notice to the parent or guardian of each student (A) who evidences any postural
152 problem, with a brief statement describing such evidence, and (B) who did not receive a
153 postural screening, with a brief statement explaining why such student did not receive
154 such postural screening.

155 All of the screenings required under these administrative regulations will be performed in
156 accordance with regulations applicable to such screenings as adopted by the State Board
157 of Education.

158 **Assessment/Screening Results**

159 The results of each assessment and screening required or requested by these
160 administrative regulations shall be recorded on forms supplied by the State Board of
161 Education. Each qualified provider performing health assessments or oral health
162 assessments under these administrative regulations shall sign each form and any
163 recommendations concerning a student shall be in writing. Assessment/screening forms
164 shall be included in the cumulative health record of each student and they shall be kept on
165 file in the school attended by the student. If a student transfers to another school district
166 in Connecticut, ~~his/her~~ the student's original cumulative health record shall be sent to the
167 chief administrative officer of the new school district and a true copy retained by the
168 Board. For a student leaving Connecticut, a copy of the records, if requested, should be
169 sent and the original maintained.

170 Appropriate school health personnel shall review the results of each assessment and
171 screening. If the reviewing school health personnel judge that a student is in need of
172 further testing or treatment, the Superintendent shall give written notice to the parent or
173 guardian of such student and shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that such further
174 testing or treatment is provided. Reasonable efforts shall include determination of

175 whether the parent or guardian has obtained the necessary testing or treatment for the
176 student, and, if not, advising the parent or guardian how such testing or treatment may be
177 obtained. The results of such further testing or treatment shall be recorded, kept on file
178 and reviewed by appropriate school health personnel in the same manner as the results of
179 the health assessments and screenings required or requested under these administrative
180 regulations.

181 The district shall report to the local health department and the Department of Public
182 Health, on a triennial basis, the total number of children per school and on a district-wide
183 basis having a diagnosis of asthma (1) at the time of public school enrollment, (2) in
184 grade six or seven, and (3) in grade ~~ten- nine~~ or ~~eleven~~ ten. The report shall contain the
185 asthma information collected as required under Section II of this Policy and shall include
186 information regarding each diagnosed child's age, gender, race, ethnicity and school.

187 **Exemption**

188 Nothing in these administrative regulations shall be construed to require any student to
189 undergo a physical or medical examination or treatment, or be compelled to receive
190 medical instruction, if the parent or legal guardian of such student or the student, if ~~he/she~~
191 the student is an emancipated minor or is eighteen (18) years of age or older, notifies the
192 teacher or principal or other person in charge of such student in writing that ~~he/she- the~~
193 student objects on religious grounds to such physical or medical examination or treatment
194 or medical instruction.

195 **Other Non-Emergency Invasive Physical Examinations and Screenings**

196 A. In addition to the screenings listed above, the district may, from time to time, require
197 students to undergo additional non-emergency, invasive physical
198 examination(s)/screening(s).

199 B. A non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening is defined as:

200 1. any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts; or

- 201 2. any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into
202 the body, but does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening; and
- 203 3. is required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school and scheduled
204 by the school in advance; and
- 205 4. is not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, or of
206 other students.
- 207 C. If the district elects to conduct any such examinations, then, at the beginning of the
208 school year, the administration shall give direct notice to parents of affected students
209 of the district's intent to conduct the non-emergency invasive physical examination(s)
210 and/or screening(s) described in this subsection. Such notice shall include the
211 specific or approximate dates during the school year of the administration of such
212 non-emergency invasive physical examination(s)/screening(s).
- 213 D. Upon request, the administration shall permit parents or students over the age of
214 eighteen (18) (or emancipated minors) to opt out of participation in the non-
215 emergency invasive physical examination(s)/screening(s) described in this
216 subparagraph.

217 **School Representative to Receive Information Concerning Health Assessments**

218 The Board designates the school nurse coordinator as the representative for receipt of
219 reports from health care providers concerning student health assessments and oral health
220 assessments.

221 Legal References:

222 **Connecticut General Statutes**

223 § 10-206 Health assessments

224 § 10-206a Free health assessments

225 § 10-206d Oral health assessments

226 § 10-208 Exemption from examination or treatment

227 § 10-209 Records not be public. Provision of reports to schools

228 § 10-214 Vision, audiometric and postural screenings: When required;
229 notification of parents re defects; record of results

230 ~~Public Act 18-168, “An Act Concerning the Department of Public Health’s~~
231 ~~Recommendations Regarding Various Revisions to the Public Health Statutes,”~~
232 ~~Sections 8, 80 and 81.~~

233 ~~Public Act No. 21-95, “An Act Concerning Assorted Revisions and Additions to~~
234 ~~the Education Statutes.”~~

235 ~~Public Act No. 21-121, “An Act Concerning the Department of Public Health’s~~
236 ~~Recommendations Regarding Various Revisions to the Public Health Statutes.”~~

237 State of Connecticut Department of Education, Bureau of Health/Nutrition,
238 Family Services and Adult Education, Cumulative Health Records Guidelines
239 (Revised Jan. 2012), [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Nursing/Publications/CHR_guidelines.pdf)
240 [Nursing/Publications/CHR_guidelines.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Nursing/Publications/CHR_guidelines.pdf)

241 **Federal Law:**

242 ~~Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every~~
243 ~~Student Succeeds Act, Public Law 114-95, at 20 U.S.C. §§ 1232h(c)(2)(C)(iii)~~
244 ~~and 1232h(c)(6)(B).~~

245 ~~Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every~~
246 ~~Student Succeeds Act, Public Law 114-95, at 20 U.S.C. § 1232h(c)(2)(C)(iii).~~

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