

I. Immunization Requirements

In accordance with state law and accompanying regulations, the Madison Public Schools (the “District”) requires each child to be protected by adequate immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, haemophilus influenzae type B, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, varicella, pneumococcal diseases, meningococcal disease and any other vaccine required by the schedule for active immunization as determined by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-7f, before being permitted to enroll in any program or school under its jurisdiction.

Among other requirements, before being permitted to enter seventh grade, the District requires each child to be vaccinated against meningococcal disease. The District further requires each child to receive a second immunization against measles and tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) before being permitted to enter seventh grade.

Further, each child must have received two doses of immunization against varicella before being permitted to enter kindergarten and seventh grade, and each child must have received two doses of immunization against rubella and mumps before being permitted to enter grades kindergarten through twelve.

By January 1 of each year, children aged 24-59 months enrolled in the District’s preschool program must show proof of receipt of at least one dose of influenza vaccine between August 1 and December 31 of the preceding year. All children aged 24-59 months who have not received vaccination against influenza previously must show proof of receipt of two doses of the vaccine the first influenza season that they are vaccinated. Children seeking to enroll in the District’s preschool program between January 1 and March 31 are required to receive the influenza vaccine prior to being

32 permitted to enter the program. Children who enroll in the preschool program after
33 March 31 of any given year are not required to meet the influenza vaccine requirement
34 until the following January.]

35 Exemption from the applicable requirements of these administrative regulations shall
36 be granted to any child who, before being permitted to enroll:

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38 (1) presents a certificate from a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice
39 registered nurse or local health agency stating that initial immunizations have been
40 given to such child and additional immunizations are in process

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42 (A) under guidelines and schedules specified by the Commissioner of Public
43 Health; or

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45 (B) in the case of a child enrolled in a preschool program or other
46 prekindergarten program who, prior to April 28, 2021, was exempt from
47 the applicable immunization requirements upon presentation of a statement
48 that such immunizations would be contrary to the religious beliefs of such
49 child or the parents or guardian of such child, as such additional
50 immunizations are recommended, in a written declaration, in a form
51 prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health, for such child by a
52 physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse.
53 Such statement of religious beliefs shall be acknowledged by a judge of a
54 court of record or a family support magistrate, a clerk or deputy clerk of a
55 court having a seal, a town clerk, a notary public, a justice of the peace, an
56 attorney admitted to the bar of this state, or a school nurse; or

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58 (2) presents a certificate, in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health
59 pursuant to Section 7 of Public Act No. 21-6, from a physician, physician assistant,

60 or advanced practice registered nurse stating that in the opinion of a such
61 physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse such
62 immunization is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of
63 such child; or

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65 (3) in the case of measles, mumps or rubella, presents a certificate from a physician,
66 physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse or from the Director of
67 Health in such child's present or previous town of residence, stating that the child
68 has had a confirmed case of such disease; or

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70 (4) in the case of haemophilus influenzae type B, has passed such child's fifth
71 birthday; or

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73 (5) in the case of pertussis, has passed such child's sixth birthday.

74 **II. Exemptions Based on Religious Beliefs**

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76 A. Children Enrolled in Kindergarten Through Twelfth Grade On or Before April 28,
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79 The immunization requirements set forth in Section I of these administrative
80 regulations **shall not apply** to any child who is enrolled in kindergarten through
81 twelfth grade on or before April 28, 2021 if:

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83 1. such child presented a statement, prior to April 28, 2021, from the parents or
84 guardians of such child that such immunization is contrary to the religious
85 beliefs of such child or the parents or guardians of such child, and

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87 2. such statement was acknowledged by a judge of a court of record or a family
88 support magistrate, a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, a town
89 clerk, a notary public, a justice of the peace, an attorney admitted to the bar of
90 the State of Connecticut, or a school nurse.

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B. Students Who Transfer from Another Public or Private School in Connecticut

The immunization requirements set forth in Section I of this policy **shall not apply** to any student who:

1. transfers to the District from another public or private school in Connecticut, and
2. was enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade in the other public or private school on or before April 28, 2021, and
3. presented a statement, prior to April 28, 2021, from the parents or guardians of such child that such immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardians of such child, and such statement was acknowledged by a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, a town clerk, a notary public, a justice of the peace, an attorney admitted to the bar of the State of Connecticut, or a school nurse.

C. Children Enrolled in Preschool or Prekindergarten Prior to April 28, 2021

Any child who is enrolled in a preschool program or other prekindergarten program prior to April 28, 2021 who:

1. presented a statement, prior to April 28, 2021, from the parents or guardians of such child that such immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardians of such child, and
2. such statement was acknowledged by a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate, a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, a

122 town clerk, a notary public, a justice of the peace, an attorney admitted to
123 the bar of the State of Connecticut, or a school nurse, but

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125 3. did not present a written declaration from a physician, a physician assistant
126 or an advanced practice registered nurse stating that additional
127 immunizations are in process as recommended by such physician, physician
128 assistant or advanced practice registered nurse, rather than as recommended
129 under guidelines and schedules specified by the Commissioner of Public
130 Health

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132 **shall comply** with the immunization requirements provided for in Section I of
133 these administrative regulations on or before September 1, 2022, or not later
134 than fourteen (14) days after transferring to a program operated by a school
135 under the jurisdiction of the District, whichever is later.

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137 In accordance with state law, the Madison Board of Education (“Board”) and the
138 District shall not be liable for civil damages resulting from an adverse reaction to a
139 non-defective vaccine required to be administered by state law.

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141 If the parents or guardians of any child are unable to pay for any required
142 immunization, the expense of such immunization shall, upon the recommendation of
143 the Board, be paid by the town of the child’s residence.

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145 The District designates [**insert name of responsible staff member**] as the
146 representative for receipt of reports from health care providers concerning student
147 immunizations.

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149 The current required immunizations for elementary (including preschool), middle and
150 high school students can be found at: [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-
151 Nursing/Forms/Immunization_Requirements.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Nursing/Forms/Immunization_Requirements.pdf).

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153 In implementing these regulations, the District shall consider state guidance and
154 supporting documents and comply with applicable law.

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156 Legal Reference:

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158 Connecticut General Statutes

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160 § 10-204a Required immunizations
161 § 10-204c Immunity from liability
162 Public Act No. 21-6, “An Act Concerning Immunizations”

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164 Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies
165 § 10-204a-2a Adequate Immunization

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167 Letter to Superintendents of Schools et al. from Connecticut State Departments of Public
168 Health and Education, *Reinstatement of Prekindergarten and Kindergarten School*
169 *Immunization Entry Requirement for Haemophilus Influenza Type B (Hib) Vaccine*, June
170 25, 2010.

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172 Letter to Superintendents of Schools et al. from Connecticut State Departments of Public
173 Health and Education, *Changes in the Immunization Requirements for School Entry*,
174 March 15, 2011.

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176 State Department of Education, Guidance Regarding Public Act 21-6, “An Act
177 Concerning Immunizations,” May 25, 2021.

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