

Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students

Required Health Examinations and Immunizations

A student's parents/guardians shall present proof that the student received a health examination, with proof of the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases, as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health, within one year prior to:

1. Entering kindergarten or the first grade;
2. Entering the sixth and ninth grades; and
3. Enrolling in an Illinois school, regardless of the student's grade (including early learning, special education, Head Start programs operated by elementary or secondary schools, and students transferring into Illinois from out-of-state or out-of-country).

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required from students entering grades 6 and 12.

As required by State law:

1. Health examinations must be performed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, an advanced practice nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician authorizing the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, or a physician assistant who has been delegated the performance of health examinations by a supervising physician.
2. A diabetes screening must be included as a required part of each health examination; diabetes testing is not required.
3. 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, parent(s)/guardian(s) 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 students entering sixth grade and their parent(s)/guardian(s) information about the link between human papilloma-virus (HPV) and HPV-related cancers and the availability of the HPV vaccine.
6. The District will provide informational materials regarding influenza and influenza vaccinations developed, provided, or approved by the IDPH when it provides information on immunizations, infectious diseases, medications, or other school health issues to students' parents(s)/guardian(s).

Unless an exemption or extension applies, the failure to comply with the above requirements by the first day of the current school year will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the District. Transfer students shall have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization regulations. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by the first day of school, the student must present, by the first day of school, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by the physician, advanced practice nurse, physician assistant, or local health department responsible for administering the immunizations.

Eye Examination

Parent(s)/guardian(s) are encouraged to have their children undergo an eye examination whenever health examinations are required.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) of students entering kindergarten or an Illinois school for the first time shall present proof before the first day of the current school year that the student received an eye examination within one year prior to entry of kindergarten or the school. A physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist must perform the required eye examination.

If a student fails to present proof by the first day of school, the school may hold the student's report card until the student presents proof:

- 1) of a completed eye examination, or
- 2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after the first day of school.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parent(s)/guardian(s) are notified of this eye examination requirement in compliance with the rules of the IDPH. Schools shall not exclude a student from attending school due to failure to obtain an eye examination.

Dental Examination

All children in kindergarten and the second, sixth, and ninth grades must present proof of having been examined by a licensed dentist before May 15 of the current school year in accordance with rules adopted by the IDPH.

If a child in the second, sixth, or ninth grade fails to present proof by May 15, the school may hold the child's report card until the child presents proof:

- 1) of a completed dental examination, or
- 2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parent(s)/guardian(s) are notified of this dental examination requirement at least 60 days before May 15 of each school year.

Exemptions

In accordance with rules adopted by the IDPH, a student will be exempted from this policy's requirements for:

1. Religious grounds if the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) present the IDPH's Certificate of Religious Exemption form to the Superintendent or designee. 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 statutory requirements. When a Certificate of Religious Exemption form is presented, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of exclusion procedures pursuant to *Board policy 7.280, Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease* and State rules if there is an outbreak of one or more diseases from which the student is not protected.
2. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds, if the examining physician, advanced registered practice nurse, or physician assistant provides written verification.
3. Eye examination requirement, if the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) show an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist.
4. Dental examination requirement, if the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) show an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

Exclusion of Students Exempt from Immunization Requirements

Students who are exempt from immunization requirements shall be considered susceptible close contacts of a student or staff member determined to have a communicable or infectious disease and excluded from school as provided and for the duration specified in the Control of Communicable Diseases Code. The school will take reasonable measures, considering available resources, to allow for the continuation of educational services during the period of exclusion and students will be allowed to make up missed work.

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. *Board policy 6.140, Education of Homeless Children*, governs the enrollment of homeless children.

LEGAL REF.: 42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq., McKinney Homeless Assistance Act
105 ILCS 5/27-8.1 and 45/1-20.
410 ILCS 45/7.1, Lead Poisoning Prevention Act.
410 ILCS 315/2e, Communicable Disease Prevention Act.
23 Ill. Admin. Code §1.530.
23 Ill. Admin. Code Part 664, Socio-Emotional and Developmental Screening.
77 Ill. Admin. Code Part 665, Child and Student Health Examination and Immunization.
77 Ill. Admin. Code Part 690, Control of Notifiable Diseases and Conditions Code.

Adopted: August 17, 1981
Reviewed: November 2024
Amended: December 18, 2024

CROSS REF.: 6.30 (Organization of Instruction), 6.140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6.180 (Extended Instructional Programs), 7.50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7.280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

ADMIN. PROC.: 6.140-AP1 (Education of Homeless Children), 7.100-AP1 (First Day Exclusions), 7.100-E1 (State of Illinois Certificate of Child Health Examinations), 7.100-E2 (First Day Exclusion Notification Letter), 7.100-E3 (Medical Records Deficiency Notice), 7.280-AP1 (Managing Students with Communicable or Infectious Diseases)