

<i>Policy</i>	<i>Title</i> IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS	<i>Code</i> JLCB
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In an effort to ensure a healthy and safe environment for students and staff, students entering the Holliston Public Schools (HPS) for the first time, whether at kindergarten or through transfer from another school district, will be required to present a physician's certificate attesting to immunization against communicable diseases as may be specified from time to time by the Department of Public Health. The only exception to these requirements will be made on receipt of a written statement from a doctor that immunization would not be in the best interests of the child, or by the student's parent/guardian stating that vaccination or immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs of the student or parent/guardian.

Please note the legal reference of Massachusetts General Laws chapter 76 section 15 detailed below:

No child shall, except as hereinafter provided, be admitted to school except upon presentation of a physician's certificate that the child has been successfully immunized against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles and poliomyelitis and such other communicable diseases as may be specified from time to time by the department of public health.

A child shall be admitted to school upon certification by a physician that he has personally examined such child and that in his opinion the physical condition of the child is such that his health would be endangered by such vaccination or by any of such immunizations. Such certification shall be submitted at the beginning of each school year to the physician in charge of the school health program. If the physician in charge of the school health program does not agree with the opinion of the child's physician, the matter shall be referred to the department of public health, whose decision will be final.

In the absence of an emergency or epidemic of disease declared by the department of public health, no child whose parent or guardian states in writing that vaccination or immunization conflicts with his sincere religious beliefs shall be required to present said physician's certificate in order to be admitted to school.

First Reading:	January 21, 2021
Second Reading:	February 11, 2021
Third Reading:	Waived
Policy Adopted:	February 11, 2021
Policy Amended:	
Policy Reviewed:	
Legal References:	MGL 76:15 - Vaccination and Immunization, 105 CMR 220 - Immunizations of Students Before Admission to School
Policy Cross Reference:	JF – Admission of Students