

**STUDENT IMMUNIZATION  
AND  
LIFE THREATENING HEALTH CONDITIONS**

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**Student Immunization**

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases and in recognition that prevention is a means of combating the spread of disease, the Board of Directors requires a student to present evidence of his/her having full immunization against diseases as required by the Washington State Board of Health.

A. "Full immunization" means being vaccinated in accordance with schedules and immunizing agents approved by the State Board of Health in WAC 246-100-166. Required immunizations for school attendance include, but are not limited to:

- Hepatitis B (Hep B)
- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP, DTP, DT)
- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap, Td)
- Polio (IPV, OPV)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)
- Varicella (chickenpox) or verify disease

B. Immediately upon enrollment in the district a Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) form, provided by the Washington State Department of Health, shall be completed by the student's parent or legal guardian. The CIS form shall be made a part of the student's permanent record.

C. If a student has not received any or all of the required immunizations, he/she shall submit evidence of the initiation of an immunization schedule and be placed in a "conditional admittance" category. He/she may remain in school for one school year provided that there is documentation that the immunization schedule is being maintained. Failure to maintain the schedule or submit documentation shall be sufficient cause to exclude the student from school.

D. Any and all exemptions will be processed and recorded on a Certificate of Exemption (COE) as provided by the Washington Department of Health.

Exemptions from one or more vaccines shall be granted for medical reasons upon certification by a physician that there is a medical reason for not administering the vaccine.

Exemptions for personal or religious reasons shall be granted upon request of the parent or legal guardian. To request an exemption, a parent or guardian must submit a signed Certificate of Exemption (COE) that the parent/guardian has either a philosophical, personal, or religious objection to the immunization of the child. The COE must include a statement, to be signed by a health care practitioner, stating that he/she provided the parent/guardian with information about the benefits and risks of immunization to the child. A health care practitioner may sign the COE form at any time prior to the enrollment of the child in school.

Photocopies of the signed COE form or a letter from the health care practitioner attached to the COE form will be accepted in lieu of the original COE form.

Permanent files of students with exemptions shall be identified, should the Washington State Department of Health order exempted students be excluded from school temporarily during an epidemic.

- E. If the Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) form or a Certificate of Exemption (COE) form is not received upon the student's enrollment in school, the principal shall provide written notice to the parents or guardians informing them of:
1. the immunization requirements;
  2. the denial of further attendance by the student;
  3. the procedural due process rights; and
  4. the immunization services that are available.

Following proper notification, the school shall exclude the student for noncompliance with the immunization laws pursuant to the appeal process procedures for student expulsions. Parents shall have a right to a hearing provided they notify the Superintendent, or designee, in writing within three (3) business days after receiving the exclusion order from the school principal. If the parent requests a hearing the parent or guardian and school principal shall be notified and a hearing scheduled within three (3) business days.

### **Meningococcal Immunizations Information Distribution**

The district shall provide parents and guardians of students in sixth grade and above with information about meningococcal disease at the beginning of every school year. The information shall address the characteristics of the disease; where to find additional information about the disease; vaccinations for children; and current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding receiving the vaccine.

### **Human Papillomavirus Disease Information**

At the beginning of every school year, from sixth through twelfth grade the district shall provide parents and guardians with information, provided by the Washington State Department of Health about human papillomavirus disease and its vaccine.

The information shall include the causes and symptoms of human papillomavirus, how the disease is spread, and the places where parents and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children and current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control Prevention regarding the vaccine.

### **Life-Threatening Health Conditions**

Prior to attendance at school, parents/guardians of a child with a life-threatening health condition are responsible for providing the necessary information to the school nurse annually so that a nursing care plan and medication order, or a treatment order, are in place before students begin school. All school staff who have a legitimate educational interest shall be informed of the student's health conditions and are responsible to review and follow the health care plan. The

health care plan shall be followed throughout the school day, which includes all school-sponsored activities. All staff designated to carry out the health care plan will be trained as necessary in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. As staff members are trained, they will sign a training roster, of which a copy will be attached to the child's health care plan. The roster will show all staff members that are trained to follow the health care plan requirements.

A life threatening health condition means a condition that will put the child in danger of death during the school day if a medication or treatment order and a nursing plan are not in place.

Students who have a life-threatening health condition and no medication or treatment order presented to the school shall be excluded from school, to the extent that the district can do so consistent with federal requirements for students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and pursuant to the following due process requirements:

- A. Written notice to the parents, guardians or persons in loco parent is delivered to the parents in person or by certified mail.
- B. Notice of the applicable laws, including a copy of RCW 28A.210.320
- C. The order that the student shall be excluded from school immediately and until a medication, or treatment order, is presented and a health care plan is developed.
- D. Describe the rights of the parents and student to a hearing, the hearing process and explain that the exclusion will continue until the medication or health care plan is in place or the hearing officer determines that the student should no longer be excluded from school.
- E. If the parents request a hearing, the Superintendent, or designee, shall schedule one within three (3) school business days of receiving a written request, unless more time is requested by the parents.
- F. The hearing process shall be consistent with the procedures established for disciplinary cases pursuant to Chapter 180-40 WAC

<b>Legal References:</b>	RCW 28A.210	Health - Screening & Requirements
	RCW 28A.210.320	Children with Life-Threatening Health Conditions
	WAC 180-38-040-065	Immunization and Life-Threatening Health Conditions
	WAC 246-100-166	Immunization of child care and school children against certain vaccine- preventable diseases
	WAC 392-182	Health records

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