

## **SAMS Academy Student Immunization Policy**

### **Pursuant to NMAC 6.12.2.8 REQUIREMENTS FOR IMMUNIZATION OF CHILDREN ATTENDING Southwest Aeronautics, Math, Science Academy**

The following definitions apply to this policy:

1. "Active duty" means full-time duty status in the active uniformed service of the United States, including members of National Guard and reserve on active duty orders.
  2. "Children of military families" means children enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade in the household of an active duty member.
  3. "Licensed physician" means a physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine in New Mexico, another state or territory.
  4. "Certified nurse practitioner" means an individual licensed as a certified nurse practitioner with prescriptive authority by the New Mexico board of nursing, another state or territory.
  5. "Required immunizations" means those immunizations against diseases deemed to be dangerous to the public health by the public health division and set forth in its immunization schedule effective at date of enrollment.
  6. "Satisfactory evidence of commencement and completion of immunization" means satisfactory evidence of a person having begun the process of immunizations in a statement, certificate or record signed by a duly license physician, certified nurse practitioner, or other recognized public or private health facility stating that the person has received at least the first in the series of required immunizations and is proceeding with the immunizations according to the prescribed schedule. Persons enrolling I schools who have begun the process of immunization shall have one month following the date of enrollment to complete the required immunizations and submit satisfactory evidence of eompleting the required immunizations or having continued the process of the required series.
  7. "Satisfactory evidence of immunization" means a statement, certificate or record signed by a duly licensed physician, certified nurse practitioner, or other recognized, licensed health facility stating that the required immunizations have been administered to the person.
- A. No student shall be enrolled at SAMS Academy unless the student can present satisfactory evidence of commencement or completion of immunization in accordance with the immunization schedule and rules and regulations of the public health division.
- B. Exemptions from immunization:
- a. The student is exempt from immunization upon filing with the SAMS Academy administration:
    - i. a statement or certificate signed by a licensed physician or certified nurse practitioner stating that the physical condition of the person seeking enrollment is such that immunization would seriously endanger the life or health of the person
    - ii. an exemption granted by the public health division on the basis of:
      1. notarized affidavits or written affirmation from an officer of a recognized religious denomination that such child's parents or guardians are bona fide members of a denomination whose religious teaching requires reliance upon prayer or spiritual means alone for healing; or
      2. notarized affidavits or written affirmation from the parent or legal guardian that religious beliefs, held either individually or jointly with others, do not permit the administration of vaccine or another immunizing agent.

- b. Exemptions from obtaining the required immunizations are valid for a period not to exceed nine (9) months and will not extend beyond the end of the school year in which the child is currently enrolled.
- C. Children of military families: Children of military families will be enrolled and conditionally placed at SAMS Academy for thirty (30) days while the student obtains the required immunizations. Students of active military families must obtain at least the first in the series of required immunizations within thirty (30) days of the date of enrollment and provide documentation to SAMS Academy.
- D. Disenrollment: If satisfactory evidence of completion of immunization or an exemption from immunization is not produced, the SAMS Academy administration will commence disenrollment proceedings.
- E. Administrative duty to report:
  - a. It is the duty the SAMS Academy head administrator to be prepared to produce a record showing the required immunization status of every child enrolled in or attending SAMS Academy.
  - b. These records must be kept current and available to public health authorities.
  - c. The name of any parent or guardian who neglects or refuses to permit his (her) child to be immunized against diseases as required by rules and regulations of the public health division shall be reported by the SAMS Academy head administrator to the director of the public health division within a reasonable time after such facts become known and documentation is provided by the school.