

Houston County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in April	Descriptor Term: Physical Examinations and Immunizations	Descriptor Code: 6.402	Issued Date: 08/14/23
		Rescinds: 6.402	Issued: 11/11/02; 07/08/13; 12/14/20

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS¹

The principal shall ensure that there is a complete physical examination of each student prior to:

1. Entering school for the first time and
2. Participating as a member of any athletic team or in any other strenuous physical activity program.

Cost of the examination shall be covered by the parent/guardian of the student. These records shall be on file in the principal's office.

Screening tests as required by the Tennessee Department of Education and the Department of Health will be conducted. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will receive written notice of any screening result that indicates a condition that might interfere with the student's progress. Parents(s)/guardian(s) may excuse their student from participating in health screenings that are part of a coordinated school health program by submitting a request in writing to the school nurse, instructor, school counselor, or principal.³

IMMUNIZATIONS

Students will not be permitted to attend school without proof of immunization as determined by the Commissioner of Health unless circumstances outlined in state or federal law prevent a student from producing such records. It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to have their children immunized and to provide such proof to the principal of the school which the student is to attend.⁴

Exceptions will be granted to any student whose parent/guardian files with school authorities a signed, written statement that such measures conflict with the one of the following:

1. His/her religious tenets and practices if in the absence of an epidemic or immediate threat of an epidemic;⁵ or
2. Due to medical reasons if the student has a written statement from his/her doctor excusing him/her from the immunization.⁶

The Director of Schools shall ensure that appropriate immunization records are maintained for each student.

Legal References

1. 20 USCA § 1232h(c)
2. TRR/MS 0520-01-13-.01(1)(a)
3. Public Acts of 2023, Chapter No. 353; Tennessee School Health Screening Guidelines, https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/csh/FINAL_Health_screening_Guidelines_2022.pdf; 20 USCA § 1232h(c)(2)(C)
4. TCA 49-6-5001(a),(c)
5. TCA 49-6-5001(b)(2)-(3)
6. TCA 49-6-5001(c)(2)

Cross References

Promoting Student
Welfare 6.400