

## STUDENTS

### Student Immunization and Life Threatening Health Conditions

Immediately upon enrollment in the district, the student's parent or legal guardian must provide proof of the required immunizations, as specified by the Washington State Department of Health, with a completed Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) form and/or an exemption with a completed Certificate of Exemption (COE) form approved by the Department of Health. The students begin to attend school until the completed CIS and/or COE is on file at the school, or the Conditional Immunization Status conditions have been met. Students experiencing homelessness under the McKinney-Vento Act, including migratory and refugee children and children in out-of-home (foster) care, who have not provided the required documentation will be allowed to enroll, attend classes, and participate fully, despite being out of compliance with immunization requirements, while the school works with parent or guardian to obtain the necessary proof of vaccination.

The CIS and/or COE will be a part of the student's permanent record. The district will provide access to immunization records of each student enrolled to agents of the state or local health department. The district will return the CIS and/or COE or a legible copy to the parent of legal guardian if the child is withdrawn or transferred from the district. The district may not withhold the CIS and/or COE for any reasons, including nonpayment of school fees.

### Certificate of Immunization

School staff may verify that the student's immunizations are complete in the WA Immunization Information System (WA-IIS); in this situation a CIS is not required to be on file. School staff will document this verification in the student's cumulative school record. If the immunizations are not complete in the WA-IIS, the immunization status of students must be documented on a completed CIS form.

All immunization information documented on a CIS by new enrollees starting school on or after August 1, 2020, must be medically verified. A CIS printed from the WA-IIS with immunization information prepopulated is considered medically verified by the WA-IIS. A hardcopy CIS completed by the parent or legal guardian must be verified as accurate by either a health care provider signature or by a school administrator, school nurse or designee's signature after verifying that the information on the CIS is accurate when compared to medical immunization records attached to the CIS.

### Conditional Immunization Status Attendance

If, by a student's first day of attendance, the student does not have documentation of all the required immunizations, but has received all of the immunizations that they are eligible to receive and is waiting for the recommended date of the next vaccine dose according to the national immunization catch-up schedule, the student may be permitted to start school in a temporary "conditional immunization status." The parent or legal guardian will be provided

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written notice (F-1 3413.1 Notice of Child's Conditional Immunization Status). Once the next dose comes due, the student can remain in conditional status for thirty (30) calendar days to have time to turn in the required documentation. If additional vaccines are needed, conditional status continues in a similar manner until all the vaccine series are complete. If the thirty (30) calendar day period expires and documentation has not been given to the school, the student will be excluded from further attendance. Valid documentation included medical records showing vaccination, evidence of immunity to the disease in question, or a completed Certificate of Exemption (COE) form.

Exemptions from Immunization

Any and all exemptions will be processed and recorded on a Certificate of Exemption (COE) form approved by the Washington Department of Health (DOH). All exemptions requested on a COE must be signed by the parent or legal guardian. Additionally, except for a religious membership exemption, all COE forms presented on or after July 22, 2011, must also have the signature of a health care practitioner (HCP) saying they have given the parent or guardian information about the benefits and risks of immunizations. The form may be signed by an HCP at any time prior to the enrollment of the child in school. Photocopies of the signed form or a letter from the HCP referencing the child's name will be accepted in lieu of the original form. Such a letter should be attached to the COE signed by the parent or legal guardian. Only a health care practitioner who is a physician (MD), physician assistant (PA), osteopath (DO), naturopath (ND), or advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) licensed in Washington State may sign the COE.

The district will grant medical exemptions from one or more of the required immunizations if the HCP indicates on the COE that in their opinion the vaccine is not advisable for the student. If the HCP indicates the medical exemption is temporary an expiration date must be documented on the COE. When a temporary medical exemption expires the student can attend school in "conditional immunization status" for thirty (30) calendar days to get the missing immunization or another exemption. If the thirty (30) calendar day period expires and documentation has not been given to the school, the student will be excluded from further attendance. Valid documentation includes medical records showing vaccination, evidence of immunity to the disease in question, or a completed Certificate of Exemption (COE) form.

The district will grant religious membership exemptions from one or more of the required immunizations if the parent or legal guardian completes the religious membership section of the COE and signs affirming, they are a member in a religious body or church with beliefs or teachings that preclude a child from receiving medical treatment from the HCP. The HCP signature is not required for a religious membership exemption.

The district will grant personal/philosophical exemptions from one or more of the required immunizations, except measles, mumps, or rubella, if the parent completes the personal/philosophical exemption section on the COE. The district will not grant an exemption

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for philosophical or personal reasons from the measles, mumps, or rubella immunization requirements.

The district will maintain or be able to produce within twenty-four (24) hours, a current list of children who have been fully immunized for easy identification should the local department of health order these students excluded from school temporarily during a disease outbreak.

Exclusion from School

The school principal will exclude students from further attendance who are out of compliance with the immunization requirement as required in [RCW 28A.210.120](#).

If the district does not receive proof of immunization status on a CIS or a COE upon the student's enrollment, and the student does not meet the criteria for conditional enrollment, when excluding students, the school will provide written notice as required by [WAC 392-380-050](#) (F-2 3413.1 Notice of Exclusion Due to Incomplete Immunization). Written notification will:

- A. Order that the student is excluded immediately, and
- B. Be delivered in person, by mail, or by email, and
- C. Be in the parent's native language if possible, and
- D. Include a copy of the applicable laws and rules ([RCW 28A.210.010-160](#), [246-105 WAC](#), and [392-182 WAC sections 005, 020, 045, 050, 080](#)), and
- E. Provide information regarding immunization services available through local health or other public agencies, and
- F. Include notice that the parent/legal guardian and student has a right to a hearing provided they notify the school within three (3) days after receiving the exclusion order from the school principal, and
- G. Describe the hearing process, and
- H. Explain that the exclusion continues until either the required immunization documentation, or a completed Certificate of Exemption form is turned in to the school, or a hearing officer determines that the student is no longer excluded from school.

If the parent requests a hearing, the district will notify in writing the parent or guardian and school principal of the time and place for the hearing and will present the case to a hearing officer appointed by the superintendent.

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