

Descriptor Term: STUDENT HEALTH SERVICE INOCULATIONS

Descriptor Code: JGCB

Rescinds: JGCB-1

Board Approved: 4/04/1988

Previously Approved:

It will be unlawful for any child to attend any school kindergarten unless he/she has first been vaccinated against those diseases specified by the State Health Office.

A certificate of exemption from vaccination for medical reasons may be offered on behalf of a child by a duly licensed physician and may be accepted by the local health officer when, in his opinion, such exemption will not cause undue risk to the community.

Certificates of vaccination will be issued by local health officers or physicians on forms specified by the Mississippi State Board of Health. These forms will be the only acceptable means for showing compliance with these immunization requirements, and the responsible school officials will file the form with the child's record.

If a child attempts to enroll at a school without having completed the required vaccinations, the local health officer may grant a period of time up to ninety (90) days for such completion when in the opinion of the health officer, such delay will not cause undue risk to the child, the school or the community. No child will be enrolled without having had at least one (1) dose of each specified vaccine.

Within thirty (30) days after the opening of the fall term of school (on or before October 1 of each year) the person in charge of each school will report to the county or local health officer, on forms provided by the Mississippi State Board of Health, the number fully vaccinated, the number in process of completing vaccination requirements, and the number exempt from vaccination by reason for such exemption.

Within one hundred twenty (120) days after the opening of the fall term (on or before December 31), the person in charge of each school will certify to the local or county health officer that all children enrolled are in compliance with immunization requirements.

For the purpose of assisting in supervising the immunization status of the children, the local health officer, or his designee, may inspect the children's records or be furnished certificates of immunization compliance by the school.

It will be the responsibility of the person in charge of each school to enforce the requirements for immunization. Any child not in compliance at the end of ninety (90) days from the opening of the fall term must be suspended until in compliance, unless the health officer attributes the delay to lack of supply of vaccine or some other such factor clearly making compliance impossible.

Failure to enforce provisions of this section will constitute a misdemeanor and upon conviction be punishable by fine or imprisonment or both.