

Students

Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students

Required Health Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students

A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall present proof that the student received a health examination, with proof of the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases, as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), within one year prior to:

1. Entering kindergarten or the first grade;
2. Entering the sixth grade and ninth grade; and
3. Enrolling in an Illinois school, regardless of the student's grade (including nursery school, special education, Head Start programs operated by elementary or secondary schools, and students transferring into Illinois from out-of-state or out of country).

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grades 6 and 12.

As required by State law:

1. Health examinations must be performed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, an advanced practice registered nurse, or a physician assistant who has been delegated the performance of health examinations by a supervising physician.
2. A diabetes screening is a required part of each health examination; diabetes testing is not required.
3. An age-appropriate developmental screening and an age-appropriate social and emotional are required parts of each health examination. A student will not be excluded from school due to his or her parent/guardian's failure to obtain a developmental screening or a social and emotional screening.
4. Before admission and in conjunction with required physical examinations, parents/guardians of children between the ages of one and seven years must provide a statement from a physician that their child was *risk-assessed* or screened for lead poisoning.
5. The IDPH will provide all students entering sixth grade and their parents/guardians information about the link between human papillomavirus (HPV) and HPV-related cancers and the availability of the HPV vaccine.
6. The District will provide informational materials regarding influenza, influenza vaccinations, meningococcal disease, and meningococcal vaccinations developed, provided, or approved by the IDPH when it provides information on immunizations, infectious diseases, medications, or other school health issues to students' parents/guardians.

Unless an exemption or extension applies, the failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the District. New students who register after October 15 of the current school year shall have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization regulations. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by October 15, the student must present, by October 15, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by the physician, advanced practice nurse, physician assistant, or local health department responsible for administering the immunizations.

A student transferring from out-of-state who does not have the required proof of immunizations by October 15 may attend classes only if he or she has proof that an appointment for the required vaccinations is scheduled with a party authorized to submit proof of the required vaccinations. If the required proof of vaccination is not submitted within 30 days after the student is permitted to attend classes, the student may no longer attend classes until proof of the vaccinations is properly submitted.

Eye Examination

Parent(s)/guardian(s) are encouraged to have their children undergo an eye examination whenever health examinations are required.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) of students entering kindergarten or an Illinois school for the first time shall present proof before October 15 of the current school year that the student received an eye examination within one year prior to entry of kindergarten or the school. A physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches or a licensed optometrist must perform the required eye examination.

If a student fails to present proof by October 15, the school may hold the student's report card until the student presents proof: (1) of a completed eye examination, or (2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parents/guardians are notified of this eye examination requirement in compliance with the rules of the IDPH. Schools shall not exclude a student from attending school due to failure to obtain an eye examination.

Dental Examination

All children in kindergarten and the second, sixth, and ninth grades must present proof of having been examined by a licensed dentist before May 15 of the current school year in accordance with rules adopted by the Illinois IDPH.

If a child in the second, sixth, or ninth grade fails to present proof by May 15, the school may hold the child's report card until the child presents proof: (1) of a completed dental examination, or (2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parent(s)/guardian(s) are notified of this dental examination requirement at least 60 days before May 15 of each school year.

Exemptions

In accordance with rules adopted by the IDPH, a student will be exempted from this policy's requirements for:

1. Religious grounds if the student's parents/guardians present the IDPH's Certificate of Religious Exemption form to the Superintendent or designee. When a Certificate of Religious Exemption form is presented, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately inform the parents/guardians of exclusion procedures pursuant to Board Policy 7:280, *Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease* and State rules if there is an outbreak of one or more diseases from which the student is not protected.
2. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds if the examining physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant provides written verification.
3. Eye examination requirement if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist.
4. Dental examination requirement if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

Homeless Child

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce immunization and health records normally required for enrollment. School Board policy 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, governs the enrollment of homeless children.

Atlantoaxial Instability

Atlantoaxial instability (AAI) is an increased flexibility between the first and second cervical vertebrae (bones of the neck). This is more commonly seen in individuals with Down syndrome. If a person has AAI, certain physical activities can increase the risk of spinal cord injury.

It is recommended that every student who is at risk for AAI have a screening that involves both x-rays and a physical examination. X-rays of the head and neck are taken with the head in a normal position, as well as the head tilted forward and back. A physical examination assesses laxity in this area. It is necessary for SEDOL staff to have AAI information to appropriately plan for the student's physical activity participation.

Temporary Restriction on Participation in Certain Activities

It is the policy of the District to restrict a student with Down syndrome from participating in the following activities until a physician's report documenting an examination for AAI is presented to the school.

Restricted Activities

- Gymnastics/tumbling
- Diving
- Butterfly stroke and diving starts in swimming
- Track and field events: high jumping, pole vault, discus, etc.
- Collision/contact sports: soccer, football, wrestling, etc.
- Rock-wall climbing
- Strenuous non-contact activities as determined by staff
- Playground activities as determined by staff

Students with Down syndrome may continue, with parental or guardian approval, to participate in other programs and activities.

Permanent Restriction on Participation in Certain Activities

If a student has been diagnosed as having AAI, the condition shall be noted on his/her medical release form provided to the District, and the student will be restricted permanently from participating in the activities listed above. Responsibility for allowing the student to participate in other District activities shall remain with the student's parent or guardian.

LEGAL REF.: 42 U.S.C. §11431 *et seq.*, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
105 ILCS 5/27-8.1 and 45/1-20.
410 ILCS 45/7.1, Lead Poisoning Prevention Act.
410 ILCS 315/2e, Communicable Disease Prevention Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.530.
77 Ill. Admin.Code Part 664, Socio-Emotional and Developmental Screening.
77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 665, Child and Student Health Examination and Immunization.
77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 690, Control of Communicable Diseases.

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

ADOPTED: October 21, 2004

REVIEWED: March 18, 2021; January 26, 2023

REVISED: February 22, 2007; June 26, 2008; May 21, 2009; October 27, 2011; April 26, 2012; June 26, 2014; October 22, 2015; January 28, 2016; May 25, 2017; January 24, 2019; March 18, 2021; January 26, 2023