Darien Public Schools

Department of Nursing Services

Darien Public School Health Requirements FAQs for Families New to the District *(rev. 7.2025)*

(Click Health Information 2025-2026 to view summary of health requirements)

What health documentation is required for my child to be registered in the Darien Public Schools?
Every student entering the district will need a Health Assessment Record from a physical exam within the calendar year and an up-to-date state-mandated **Immunization Record.** Please upload forms (pdf format) onto Family Connections or email them to your child's school nurse. Please understand that your child will not be enrolled until health documentation has been reviewed and verified by a school nurse in the district.

What if I am moving from within the United States?
We understand that families new to the Darien community may not have a local healthcare provider. Please make an appointment as soon as possible (click here). To register your child(s) into DPS, please upload a PDF version of the most recent health assessment and immunization record on Family Connections or email a copy directly to your child(s) school nurse. School nurses will review the documentation and notify you of missing or noncompliant health documentation.

What if I am moving from outside the United States?
We understand that families new to the Darien community may not have a local healthcare provider. Please make an appointment as soon as possible (click here). To register your child(s) into DPS, please upload a PDF version of the most recent health assessment and immunization record on Family Connections or email a copy directly to your child(s) school nurse. School nurses will review the documentation and notify you of missing or noncompliant health documentation. Given you are from outside of the United States, your child may require additional services such as translation, vaccines, and/or a health assessment performed by a medical provider licensed in the United States. Nurses will communicate with you directly on what your child will need to be compliant and the steps you can take to meet the requirements.

What if my child(s) documentation does not meet the state-mandated health requirements?
There are many local clinics that have quick (often same day) appointments and can provide your child with the necessary translation, vaccines and/or health assessments (see list below). We encourage you to still make an appointment as soon as possible with a local pediatrician (click here).

- American Family Care Clinics: Provides physical exams and vaccinations required for school physicals. You may make an appointment online but it is not necessary. AFCs accept most insurance carriers and a majority of new Affordable Care Act insurance plans
  Norwalk: 607 Main Ave (203) 290-1213 AFC Norwalk
  Stamford: 3000 Summer Street (203)969-2000 AFC Stamford
- CVS Minute Clinic: Provides physical exams and vaccinations for school physicals. You may make an appointment online or just walk in. CVS accepts most insurance carriers.
  Riverside: 1239 E Putnam Ave (866) 389-2727 CVS Minute Clinic Riverside,
  Stratford: 1 Hawley Lane CVS Minute Clinic Stratford

- Community Health Center: Provides pediatric medical, behavioral, and dental care, including physical assessments and vaccinations. CHC provides care to uninsured individuals as well as those with public health insurance, such as HUSKY. CHC has an "access to care" team to help families apply for public health insurance programs. Patients who are not eligible can receive care at a reduced rate through our sliding scale fees. CHC website
  Stamford: 22 Fifth Street Stamford 203-323-8160 CHC Stamford - Fifth Street
- Norwalk Community Health Center: Provides eligibility and translation services through an initial information-gathering appointment. At that time, NCHC staff assisted families by helping to make appointments and explaining required documentation.
  Norwalk: 120 Connecticut Ave (203) 851-1000 Norwalk CHC
- Norwalk Health Department: Provides eligibility, translation, and vaccination services. Be sure to bring all of your current health documentation to the first appointment.
  Norwalk: 137 East Avenue, NHD website
- Greenwich Hospital and Department of Health: - Greenwich Hospital Clinic is merging with Family Centers, a program under the Department of Health. They accept new patients but they *must be uninsured and can be undocumented.* Services provided include school physical assessments, tests, and screenings. Greenwich Family Health

Will my child be able to register and start at DPS without meeting the Health requirements?
Unfortunately, unless your child falls under the Mckinney Vento Act (see below) state law (C.G.S.Secs. 10-204a and 10-206) requires complete primary immunizations and a health assessment by a legally qualified health provider before school entrance. ***Your child will not be registered into DPS without having met these requirements.***

Who can I contact with any questions regarding registration and meeting the health documentation requirements?
The school nurse at your child's school will be able to assist you with any questions you may have. You may also contact Emily Merritt, Director of Nursing Services at 203-655-3981 x2304 or emerritt@darienps.org,

What if my child's health documentation is in a different language?
Translation services are available at Norwalk Community Health Centers. Call to set up an initial appointment and be sure to bring with you the health documentation that you have. Norwalk CHC

What if my child is determined to be "homeless" under the Mckinney - Vento Act?
Students who wish to register for school and are qualified as homeless children and youth under the Mckinney - Vento Homeless Assistance Act will be enrolled immediately into the district. Health documentation is not required for enrollment.

What if my child has a religious exemption from another State?

Effective April 28, 2021, Connecticut no longer accepts any new religious exemptions. Students who transfer from schools within Connecticut and have a valid, completed Religious Exemption form in their school health file from before April 27, 2021, will be allowed to continue to have a Religious Exemption to immunizations. Children who transfer in from states other than Connecticut, or outside the United States, after April 27, 2021, are not eligible for Religious Exemption to immunizations in Connecticut. DPS Immunization FAQs

Will my child require a Tuberculosis Skin Test before registration into DPS?

It is recommended that your practitioner assess your child for risk of exposure to Tuberculosis. Students originally from high Tuberculosis burden countries entering Connecticut schools for the first time must receive a Tuberculosis Skin Test. For a complete list of high-burden countries, please visit the Stop TB website or the CT DPH TB risk assessment and user guide