

## Students

### Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students<sup>1</sup>

#### Required Health Examinations and Immunizations

A student's parents/guardians 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;<sup>2</sup>
2. Entering the sixth and ninth grades;<sup>3</sup> 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).<sup>4</sup>

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grades 6 and 12.<sup>5</sup>

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.<sup>6</sup>
2. A diabetes screening is a required part of each health examination; diabetes testing is not required.<sup>7</sup>
3. An age-appropriate developmental screening and an age-appropriate social and emotional screening are required parts of each health examination.<sup>8</sup> 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.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> State or federal law controls this policy's content. The policy restates 105 ILCS 5/22-105, **renumbered by P.A. 104-391**. Immunization requirements are found in 77 Ill.Admin.Code §665.240. A tuberculosis skin test is required if the student lives in an area designated by the Ill. Dept. of Public Health (IDPH) as having a high incidence of tuberculosis. See also *Questions & Answers Regarding School Health Requirements*, revised May 2013, and available at: [www.dhs.state.il.us/onenetlibrary/27897/documents/schoolhealth/faq\\_2013.pdf](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/onenetlibrary/27897/documents/schoolhealth/faq_2013.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> 105 ILCS 5/22-105(1), **renumbered by P.A. 104-391**; 77 Ill.Admin.Code §§665.140 and 665.240 *et seq.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* If grade levels are not assigned, examinations must be completed within one year prior to the school year in which the child reaches the ages of five, 11, and 15. 77 Ill.Admin.Code §665.140(b).

<sup>5</sup> 410 ILCS 315/1.10; 77 Ill.Admin.Code §665.240(l). For students attending school programs where grade levels (kindergarten through 12) are not assigned, including special education programs, students must show proof that they have received one dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine in the school year in which the child reaches age 11 and a second dose in the school year in which the child reaches age 16 (but if the first dose is administered when the child is 16 years of age or older, only one dose is required). Students eligible to remain in public school beyond grade 12 (special education) shall meet the requirements for 12th grade.

<sup>6</sup> 105 ILCS 5/22-105(2), **renumbered by P.A. 104-391**; 77 Ill.Admin.Code §665.130.

<sup>7</sup> 105 ILCS 5/22-105(2), **renumbered by P.A. 104-391**; 77 Ill.Admin.Code §665.700.

<sup>8</sup> 105 ILCS 5/22-105(2), **renumbered by P.A. 104-391**; 77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 664. The health care provider must only record whether or not the social and emotional screening was completed.

<sup>9</sup> 105 ILCS 5/22-105(2.5), **renumbered by P.A. 104-391**; 77 Ill.Admin.Code §664.140. Item #3 may be supplemented with any of the following options:

**Option 1:** If proof of the developmental screening or the social and emotional screening portions of the health examination are not presented by October 15 of the current school year, qualified school support personnel may, with a parent/guardian's consent, offer the screenings to the child.

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. <sup>10</sup>
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. <sup>11</sup>
6. The District will provide informational materials regarding influenza and influenza 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. <sup>12</sup>

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. <sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by the

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**Option 2:** Once a student presents proof that he or she received a developmental screening or a social and emotional screening, the school may, with a parent/guardian's consent, make available appropriate school personnel to work with the parent/guardian, child, and provider who signed the screening form to obtain any appropriate evaluations and services.

**Option 3:** (The use of both Option 1 and 2.)

- a. If proof of the developmental screening or the social and emotional screening portions of the health examination are not presented by October 15 of the current school year, qualified school support personnel may, with a parent/guardian's consent, offer the screenings to the child.
- b. Once a student presents proof that he or she received a developmental screening or a social and emotional screening, the school may, with a parent/guardian's consent, make available appropriate school personnel to work with the parent/guardian, child, and provider who signed the screening form to obtain any appropriate evaluations and services.

**Note:** Even if the district does not offer the above optional services, consult the board attorney about whether the presence of developmental or social and emotional screening information on the Child Health Examination form triggers Child Find obligations under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

<sup>10</sup> Required by 410 ILCS 45/7.1. Physicians are required to screen children over 7 years of age for lead poisoning when, in the physician's judgment, a child is at risk. 410 ILCS 45/6.2.

<sup>11</sup> This sentence restates the requirement in the Communicable Disease Prevention Act regarding HPV-related cancer prevention. 410 ILCS 315/2e.

<sup>12</sup> 105 ILCS 5/22-105(8.5), amended by P.A. 103-985 and renumbered by P.A. 104-391.

<sup>13</sup> 105 ILCS 5/22-105(5), renumbered by P.A. 104-391, requires compliance by October 15 unless a district establishes an earlier date with 60 days' notice. If an earlier date is established, replace "October 15" in this paragraph with the earlier locally established date. During any student's exclusion from school for non-compliance with this policy, the student's parents/guardians shall be considered in violation of 105 ILCS 5/26-1 and subject to any penalty imposed by 105 ILCS 5/26-10, as provided in 105 ILCS 5/22-105(5), renumbered by P.A. 104-391. 105 ILCS 5/22-105(2.5), renumbered by P.A. 104-391, exempts developmental or social and emotional screenings from the exclusion from school requirement.

**Note:** 77 Ill.Admin.Code §665.240(n) states "It is not the intent of this Part that any child whose parents comply with the intent of this Part, the Act or the School Code should be excluded from a child care facility or school. A child or student shall be considered in compliance with the law if there is evidence of the intent to comply. Evidence may be: 1) a signed statement from a health care provider that he or she has begun, or will begin, the necessary immunization procedures; or 2) the parent's or legal guardian's written consent for the child's participation in a school or other community immunization program." Consult with the board attorney about the impact this regulation may have on the district's ability to and procedures for excluding students for non-compliance with this policy.

<sup>14</sup> This sentence is optional. The timeframe of 30 days is a matter of local discretion except that out-of-state transfer students who fail to provide proof of the required vaccinations after 30 days must be excluded until such proof is properly submitted. 105 ILCS 5/22-105(5), renumbered by P.A. 104-391. Consult the board attorney about establishing timeframes other than 30 days.

<sup>15</sup> This sentence and the following sentence restate 105 ILCS 5/22-105(5), renumbered by P.A. 104-391.

physician, advanced practice registered 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.<sup>16</sup> 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.<sup>17</sup>

### Eye Examination <sup>18</sup>

Parents/guardians are encouraged to have their children undergo an eye examination whenever health examinations are required. <sup>19</sup>

Parents/guardians 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 <sup>20</sup>

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 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 parents/guardians are notified of this dental examination requirement at least 60 days before May 15 of each school year.

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<sup>16</sup> *Id.* The special treatment of out-of-state transfer students resulted from the enactment of the Educational Opportunity for Military Children Act, 105 ILCS 70/. There are no more sunset dates in this law, which eliminates its constituents' need to continually revisit the law and extend its effective dates.

<sup>17</sup> 105 ILCS 5/22-105, renumbered by P.A. 104-391.

<sup>18</sup> Required by 105 ILCS 5/22-105(1.10) and 5/22-105(2), both renumbered by P.A. 104-391. The IDPH's rules are published at 77 Ill.Admin.Code §665.610 et seq. §§665.150 and 665.630 prescribe the statewide eye examination report form, available at: [www.idph.state.il.us/HealthWellness/EyeExamReport.pdf](http://www.idph.state.il.us/HealthWellness/EyeExamReport.pdf) or 77 Ill.Admin.Code §665, Appendix A.

<sup>19</sup> While 105 ILCS 5/22-105, renumbered by P.A. 104-391, requires eye examinations for students entering kindergarten or an Illinois school for the first time, it still encourages parents/guardians to have their children undergo eye examinations at the same points in time as their required health examinations. The IDPH must require that individuals conducting vision screenings give a child's parent/guardian a written notification stating (105 ILCS 5/22-105(2), renumbered by P.A. 104-391):

Vision screening is not a substitute for a complete eye and vision evaluation by an eye doctor. Your child is not required to undergo this vision screening if an optometrist or ophthalmologist has completed and signed a report form indicating that an examination has been administered within the previous 12 months.

<sup>20</sup> Required by 105 ILCS 5/22-105(1.5), renumbered by P.A. 104-391. The IDPH's rules are published at 77 Ill.Admin.Code §665.410 et seq. §§665.150 and 665.430 prescribe the statewide dental examination report form, available at:

<https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/forms/topics-services/prevention-wellness/oral-health/proof-school-dental-exam-042025.pdf> or 77 Ill.Admin.Code §665, Appendix D.

Exemptions <sup>21</sup>

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. <sup>22</sup>
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.<sup>23</sup> Board policy 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, governs the enrollment of homeless children.

LEGAL REF.: 42 U.S.C. §11431 *et seq.*, McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.  
 105 ILCS 5/22-105.  
 105 ILCS 45/1-20, *Education for Homeless Children Act*.  
 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 Notifiable Diseases and Conditions Code.

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children), 6:180 (Extended Instructional Programs), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

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<sup>21</sup> *Id.*; 105 ILCS 5/22-105(1.10) and 5/22-105(8), both renumbered by P.A. 104-391.

<sup>22</sup> *Id.*; 77 Ill.Admin.Code §665.510. The Certificate of Religious Exemption form is available on IDPH's website at: <https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/files/forms/religious-exemption-form-081815-040816.pdf>. To direct parents/guardians to the detailed exclusionary requirements pursuant to 77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 690, see sample exhibit 7:280-E2, *Reporting and Exclusion Requirements for Common Communicable Diseases*. The IDPH maintains communicable disease guidance for school nurses, which includes a chart detailing mode of transmission, symptoms, incubation period, period of communicability, criteria for exclusion from school, reporting requirements, and prevention and control measures at: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/cd-school-nurse-guidance.html>.

<sup>23</sup> Required by 105 ILCS 45/1-20 (Education for Homeless Children Act). Also required by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11432(g)(3)(C)(i).