

August 24, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardian:

With the new school year about to start, I want to remind you that the State of Connecticut mandated screenings, immunization compliance, and mandated physical examinations are managed and documented by your school nurse. **Students out of compliance will not be allowed to attend classes until all documents are received and verified by the school nurse.**

I ask that parents/guardians **notify the school nurse if your child has any medical problems,** e.g., allergies, experiencing a stressful situation, chronic illness, vision or hearing difficulties, recent surgery, etc. The school nurse will work with the child's physician, parents, and other school personnel to meet individual health needs in school so that the child may benefit from his/her educational program.

All medications are administered by the school nurse or certified personnel during school hours. Only FDA-approved medications are administered. Metered-dose inhalers, insulin pumps and, Epi-pens for upper-level students may be self-administered with appropriate completed forms. District policy does not permit students to self-administer OTC or prescribed medications during school. Documentation from the child's physician and parent/guardian signature is required by the State of Connecticut School Health Laws for all medications given during school hours. Medication forms are available in the link at the end of this document.

Connecticut Health Requirements and Forms

- Connecticut law states that no one may attend school without the medical documents identified below, unless written exemption is given on medical or religious grounds.

The Health Assessment form (HAR-3) is mandatory for Preschool, Kindergarten, Grade 6, and Grade 9, and **MUST have the doctor's signature AND stamp.**

Required Physical Examinations:

New Students to the District:

ALL new students (including kindergarteners and Pre-K) must show proof of having received both a series of required immunizations (see below) and a recent (within 12 months of the start of the current school year) physical examination by a physician licensed to practice in the USA.

Preschool, Kindergarten, Grade 6, and Grade 9 Students:

ALL Preschool, Kindergarten, grade 6 and grade 9 students are required to provide proof of a physical examination completed within 12 months of the start of the current school year.

Immunization updates required.

Immunization Requirements for Enrolled Students at Connecticut Schools:

The 2021-2022 Immunization Requirements for Enrolled Students at Connecticut Schools is available below.

Please make sure your children's medical records are current.

Religious Exemption: Public Act 21-6, “An Act Concerning Immunizations”, effective April 28, 2021

On April 28, 2021, Governor Lamont signed into law Public Act 21-6, “An Act Concerning Immunizations,” which updates Connecticut’s immunization requirements for students attending preK-12 schools, day care programs, and institutions of higher education by removing exemptions that are not medical.

The new law does contain a provision allowing certain existing exemptions to remain in place, which effectively allows students, in certain limited circumstances, to continue to claim a religious exemption from statutory vaccination requirements. The basis for the exemption on religious grounds must be that the immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs of the child or the parents/guardian of the child. To be eligible for such an exemption, a student:

- (1) must have been enrolled in school in Grades K-12 on or before the law's effective date (that is, by midnight April 28, 2021); and**
- (2) must have submitted a valid religious exemption prior to that effective date (that is, by midnight April 27, 2021).**

Students must meet both conditions in order to be eligible for a religious exemption.

To access Public Act 21-6, please log on to

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/act/pa/pdf/2021PA-00006-R00HB-06423-PA.pdf>

CT School Immunization Requirements 2021/2022

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Nursing/Forms/Immunization_Requirements.pdf

CT Early Childhood Health Assessment Record for children ages birth to 5 (Preschool)

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Nursing/Forms/EC_HAR.pdf

CT Medical Exemption Certification Statement

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/dph/infectious_diseases/medical_exemptions/medexemptcertformrevApril2011pdf.pdf

CT K-12 Health Assessment Form

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Nursing/Forms/HAR3_2018.pdf?la=en

Authorization for Administration of Medication by School Personnel

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Nursing/Forms/Medication_Form.pdf

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school nurse.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Simone Odom, BSN, RN
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