



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

NICK LYON
DIRECTOR

August 21, 2018

Re: Immunization Requirements for Children Entering Kindergarten, 7th grade, or
Children Entering a New School District in Grades 1-12 During the Calendar Year

Dear Superintendents of Local and Intermediate School Districts; Principals of all
Public, Private and Parochial Schools; and Public School Academy Directors:

Immunizations are one of the most effective measures in protecting children from harmful diseases and death. The Michigan Public Health Code requires all children who attend school in Michigan to have an up-to-date immunization history or a valid waiver on file per Administrative Rules. All schools are required to report their immunization status to their jurisdictional local health department. **A child who fails to meet these immunization requirements shall not be admitted into the school.**

It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to ensure that their child has received all required vaccine doses upon school entry.

Since 1978, Michigan law requires that each student possess a certificate of immunization at the time of registration (or no later than the first day of school) for entry into kindergarten, 7th grade, or into a new school district involving grades 1-12.

There are three circumstances in which a required vaccine may be waived or delayed:

1. **Provisional Status:** The child has received at least one dose of required vaccine(s) and the next dose(s) are not yet due. Schools are required to follow-up with these students to ensure subsequent doses of vaccine are received and are complete for all required vaccines;
2. The child has a medical contraindication to a vaccine, in this case a *Medical Contraindication Form* **is required to be completed and signed by the child's primary care physician.** The form shall state the medical contraindication(s), the vaccine(s) involved, and the time period during which the child is precluded from receiving the vaccine(s);
3. A parent or guardian holds a religious or philosophical ("other") belief that precludes receipt of vaccination(s). These are nonmedical exemptions and require certification at the local health department (LHD).

To receive a *Nonmedical Waiver Form*, parent(s)/guardian(s) are required to receive education on the benefits of vaccination and the risks of disease from a Michigan local health department where staff shall address concerns and/or questions, and then sign

the current State of Michigan 2018 *Nonmedical Waiver Form*. Contact information for LHDs can be found in the [Malph resource directory](#).

To meet admission requirements, the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) is responsible for bringing the original signed current 2018 *Nonmedical Waiver Form* to your school for entry into the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR) under the School Immunization Reporting System (SIRS).

A student who fails to meet immunization requirements shall not be admitted to school:

- **Students excused on "Pupil Membership Count Day" may still be counted for purposes of State School Aid if they physically return to school within 30 calendar days from the date of "Pupil Membership Count Day."**
- **Students excluded from school entry due to an incomplete immunization record may be granted an excused absence by the Michigan Department of Education if permitted by the local school district Board of Education.**

Beginning this year, schools will be required to obtain permission from a parent to make immunization information available for viewing at the state and local health department. Please review the attached document titled, "Guidance to Schools on recording and reporting Immunization Information."

The Michigan Care Improvement Registry under the School Immunization Reporting System must be utilized to meet immunization compliancy with school immunization reporting. This system pulls immunization records contained within the MCIR for students entered into the MCIR/SIRS school roster. All students in both kindergarten and 7th grade need to be placed on the roster as well as any newly-enrolled student to the district. The **November 1, 2018** report should include all newly-enrolled students from **January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018**. The **February 1, 2019** report should include the November roster, plus any students starting from **October 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018**. The local health department will monitor the progress, timeliness and accuracy of your school(s) immunization compliance reporting.

Individual programs without internet access should contact their local health department for guidance when using the handwritten *IP-100 Reporting Form for School Immunization Reporting*.

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The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) or the local health department may conduct an audit in the event of an outbreak and/or non-compliance. Proper maintenance of up-to-date immunization records are critical and are required to be on file.

The State School Aid Act (P.A. 94 of 1979) Section 388.1767 requires that school districts shall submit an immunization report of the completed, appropriately waived and provisional immunization by November 1, 2018, and meet a 90 percent compliance of the entering students, as listed above. School districts not in compliance will be subject to 5 percent of their state school aid funds being withheld. By February 1, 2019, a minimum of 95 percent of entering students, as listed above, shall submit a completed, appropriately waived and provisional immunization record to avoid the implementation of 5 percent withholding. Submission of immunization records prior to the November and February deadlines will allow your local health department to review the submitted information and assist with data entry corrections.

The Revised School Code, Section 380.1177(a)

The Revised School Code, Act 451 of 1976 requires the Michigan Department of Education, in cooperation with MDHHS, to develop information for Michigan schools to address notification of families with children enrolled in grades 6, 9, and 12, about the risk and prevention of Meningococcal Meningitis and Human Papillomavirus Diseases.

Information regarding the symptoms of vaccine-preventable diseases, how they spread, risk factors, risk associated with vaccination against these diseases, and where to obtain the vaccines are available in this packet. These materials about the importance of getting their children and adolescents vaccinated with all recommended vaccines should be distributed to all parent information in school newsletters, and any other social media source utilized in your school districts.

A teen vaccine information guide can be found at:

<http://www.aimtoolkit.org/docs/TeenVaccinesInfoForParents.pdf>

Information about the influenza (s)/guardian(s). Feel free to print copies of these materials and include them in any new parent or orientation packets. Please disseminate this vaccine information included in this packet and should be shared within the school community.

Online access to these notification materials is available at

www.michigan.gov/immunize.

To assist in the completion of immunization reports, a summary and supporting information is available online at www.mcir.org under the School/Childcare link and is also included in this packet. Please review this important information to assist you with

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the completion of the immunization reporting of your students. A request for additional informational materials should be directed to the local health department.

To obtain technical assistance or to enroll as a MICR/SERS user, please contact your local health department or the MCIR Help Desk at 1-888-243-6652.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in ensuring that Michigan's children are properly immunized to avoid the ongoing threat of communicability and illness associated with vaccine preventable diseases.

Sincerely,



Nick Lyon
Director
MI Department of Health & Human Services



Sheila A. Alles
Interim State Superintendent
MI Department of Education

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c: Local Health Departments