

STUDENTS

Student Immunization and Life-Threatening Health Conditions

Certificate of Immunization

Immediately upon enrollment in the district a Certification of Immunization Status, distributed by the Washington Department of Health, shall be completed by the student's parent or legal guardian.

If, by the student's first day of enrollment, a student does not have documentation for receipt of any or all of the required immunizations, he/she will submit evidence of the initiation of an immunization schedule and will be placed in a "conditional admittance" status. Students may attend under conditional status for a limited time. The parent or guardian must provide, within thirty (30) days of the student's first day of attendance, any missing immunization(s) and/or provide documentation needed to complete the CIS. If a student needs additional doses to complete a vaccine series, he/she will remain in conditional admittance status for a maximum of thirty (30) days after the next dose is due until the series is complete. Failure to submit documentation within these timelines will be sufficient cause to exclude the student from school.

Exemptions from Immunizations

All exemptions will be recorded on a Certificate of Exemption (COE) as distributed by the Washington Department of Health.

Exemptions from one or more vaccines will be granted for medical reasons upon certification by a licensed healthcare provider that there is a medical reason for not administering the vaccine(s).

Exemptions for personal or religious reasons will be granted upon the request of the parent or legal guardian. To request an exemption, a parent or guardian must submit a signed COE stating the parent/ guardian has a philosophical, personal, or religious objection to the immunization of the student. The form must include a statement signed by a licensed healthcare provider stating he or she provided the parent/ guardian with information about the benefits and risks of immunization. Photocopies of the signed form or letter from the licensed healthcare provider will be accepted in lieu of the original form.

Any parent or legal guardian of the child who exempts the child due to religious beliefs is not required to have a COE signed by a health care practitioner if the parent or legal

guardian demonstrates on the COE membership in a religious body or a church in which the religious beliefs or teachings of the church preclude a health care practitioner from providing medical care to the child.

The permanent file of students with exemptions will be marked for easy identification should the local department of health order that exempted students be excluded from school temporarily during an outbreak or epidemic.

If Proof of Immunization or a Certificate of Exemption is not received upon the student's enrollment in school, the principal or designee shall provide written notice via certified mail to the parents or guardians informing them of:

- A. The immunization requirements;
- B. The denial of further attendance by the student if any missing immunization(s) and/or documentation needed to complete the CIS are not provided within the time-frame specified in the written notice;
- C. The procedural due process rights; and
- D. The immunization services that are available.

Exclusion from School

Following proper notification, the school shall exclude the student for noncompliance with the immunization laws pursuant to the appeal process procedures for student expulsions (Policy 3241). Parents have a right to a hearing provided they notify the school within three (3) days after receiving the exclusion order from the school principal. If the parent requests a hearing, the parent or guardian and school principal shall be notified in writing of the time and place for the hearing and shall present the case to a hearing officer appointed by the superintendent.

Cross References:

3241	Classroom Management, Discipline, and Corrective Action
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