HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

Pupils who enter the district schools for the first time shall have a medical examination conducted at the medical home of the student, and a full report sent to the school. If a student does not have a medical home, the district shall provide this examination at the school physician’s office or other appropriately equipped facility. “Medical home” means a health care provider and that provider’s practice site chosen by the student’s parent/guardian for the provision of health care. As the school physician is also a health care provider, the parent/guardian may request that the school physician provide the medical examination.

A pupil shall be exempted from mandatory immunization if the parent/guardian objects to immunization in a written statement submitted to the principal, signed by the parent/guardian, explaining how the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with the pupil’s exercise of bona fide religious tenets or practices. General philosophical or moral objection to immunization shall not be sufficient for an exemption on religious grounds.

Every pupil who enters the district schools for the first time shall present an immunization record as required by law.

In order to protect the health of the children and staff in district schools, all regulations of the State Department of Education, the State Department of Health and the local Board of Health shall be scrupulously observed, particularly those dealing with contagious/infectious diseases or conditions.

Pupils seeking to enter school who have been identified as having a communicable/infectious disease or condition shall not be enrolled unless they qualify under the above agencies’ rules pertaining to periods of incubation, communicability, quarantine and reporting.

The Chief School Administrator or his/her designee shall formulate regulations that ensure immunization records are reviewed and updated annually pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 through 4.16. The Chief School Administrator shall formulate regulations for this policy and for regular pupil health examinations at appropriate grade levels; before participation in sports programs; and for tuberculosis, scoliosis, hearing loss, visual acuity and any other physical examinations required by law. Any health defects revealed by any examination given by the school health services must be reported to the parent/guardian. The Board shall review the regulations and adopt those required by law.

Date: May 23, 2011

Mandated:

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.4(a)1 through –21 directs the board to develop policies and programs on various aspects of health examinations.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(a) requires policies on the content and procedures for the administration of student medical exams in accord with statute.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.1 requires policy on assessment, intervention, referral for evaluation, referral for treatment and discipline of students whose use of alcohol or other drugs has affected school performance. Examination
Other Reasons:

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.5(a)2 requires the board to maintain student health records to include documentation of immunizations against communicable diseases or exemption from those immunizations.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.1 describes required school medical personnel and sets out their responsibilities.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(d) describes the circumstances for required student medical examinations – entry into school, pursuant to a comprehensive child study team evaluation, and when applying for working papers. N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(e) lists the components of the examination.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(f) requires scoliosis screening for every student between the ages of 10 and 18.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(g) requires the examination of any student suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and controlled dangerous substances.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h) requires the examination of any candidate for a school athletic squad to be conducted within 365 days prior to the first practice session and lists the components of that examination.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.3(a) requires tuberculosis tests on students based upon the incidence of tuberculosis or reactor rates in specific communities or population groups.

Legal References:


N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4 Examination for physical defects and screening of hearing of pupils; health records

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4.3 Scoliosis; periodic examination; notice to parents or guardian


N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4.5 Immunity from action of any kind due to provisions of act

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-5 Method of examination; notice to parent or guardian

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-6 In general


N.J.S.A. 18A:40-16 through -19 Tuberculosis infection; determination of presence...

N.J.S.A. 26:1A-9.1 Immunization at public expense

N.J.S.A. 26:4-6 Exemption of pupils from mandatory immunizations

N.J.A.C. 6:3-8.1 Prohibiting attendance of teachers or pupils

N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.4 Athletics Procedures

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.1 et seq. Evaluation

See particularly:

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3, -1.4, -1.5, -2.1, -2.2, -2.3, -2.4, -4.1, -4.3 Programs to Support Student Development

N.J.A.C. 8:57-2 Reporting of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and infection with Human Immunodeficiency Virus
Legal References (Continued):

N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 Applicability
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.2 Proof of immunization
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.3 Medical exemptions
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.4 Religious exemptions
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.5 Provisional admission
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.6 Documents accepted as evidence of immunization
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.7 Records required
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.8 Reports to be sent to the State Department of Health
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.9 Records available for inspection
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.10 Diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccine
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.11 Poliovirus vaccine
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.12 Measles virus vaccine
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.13 Rubella vaccine
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.14 Mumps vaccine
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.15 Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib) conjugate vaccine
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.16 Providing immunization
N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.17 Emergency powers of the State Commissioner of Health

N.J.A.C. 8:61-1.1 Attendance at school by pupils or adults infected by Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV)


Key Words

Immunizations, Inoculations, Examinations, Pupil Physical Examinations, Student Physical Examinations, Health