

Policy Information

Series 7000 - STUDENTS

STUDENT WELFARE

Immunization of Students

Policy # 7511

Every child entering or attending a District school must present proof of immunization or proof of immunity by serology (blood test) if applicable in accordance with Public Health Law Section 2164 and the New York State Department of Health Regulations unless:

- a) A New York State licensed physician certifies that such immunization is detrimental to the child's health. The requirement for that immunization is waived until such immunization is no longer detrimental to the child's health; or
- b) The student's parent, parents, or persons in parental relation hold genuine and sincere religious beliefs which are contrary to the requirement. In such cases, the Building Principal will make a case-by-case determination whether a parent/guardian is entitled to invoke this religious exemption from required immunizations after receiving a written and signed statement from the parent(s) or persons in parental relation to such child. New York State Law does not recognize exemptions based on a parent or guardian personal or philosophical belief.

Except for the above two exemptions, the District may not permit a student lacking evidence of immunization to remain in school for more than fourteen (14) days, or more than thirty (30) days for an out-of-state or out-of-country transferee who can show a good faith effort to get the necessary certification or other evidence of immunization.

For homeless children, the enrolling school must immediately refer the parent or guardian of the student to the District's homeless liaison, who must assist them in obtaining the necessary immunizations, or immunization or medical records.

The administration will notify the local health authority of the name and address of excluded students and provide the parent/person in parental relation a statement of his/her duty regarding immunization as well as a consent form prescribed by the Commissioner of Health. The school shall cooperate with the local health authorities to provide a time and place for the immunization of these students.

Parents, guardians or other persons in parental relation may appeal to the Commissioner of Education if their child is denied school entrance or attendance for failing to meet health immunization standards.

The District will provide an annual summary of compliance with immunization requirements to the Commissioner of Health.

For current information regarding immunization requirements, refer to website: <http://schoolhealthservicesny.com>

For advice on specialized immunization questions, contact the regional New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) office directly. A complete listing of regional offices can be found on the following website:

http://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/diseases/reporting/communicable/infection/regional_epi_staff.htm

All schools will post educational information on influenza and the benefits of influenza immunization. The information must be in plain view and available to parents. Schools can obtain the information to post at:

http://www.nyhealth.gov/prevention/immunization/childhood_and_adolescent.htm

Policy References:

Education Law Sections 310 and 914

Public Health Law Section 2164

8 NYCRR Part 136

10 NYCRR Subpart 66-1

NOTE: Refer also to Policy #7131 -- Education of Homeless Children and Youth

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