

## **Students**

### **Health, Eye and Dental Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students**

#### Required Health Examinations and Immunizations

A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall present proof that the student received a health examination and the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases, as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health, within one year prior to:

1. Entering preschool, kindergarten or the first grade;
2. Entering the sixth and ninth grades; and
3. Enrolling in an Illinois school, regardless of the student's grade (including nursery school, special education, Headstart programs operated by elementary or secondary schools, and students transferring into Illinois from out of state or out of country).

As required by State law:

1. The required health examinations must be performed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, an advanced practice nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician authorizing the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, or a physician assistant who has been delegated the performance of health examinations by a supervising physician.
2. A diabetes screening must be included as a required part of each health examination; diabetes testing is not required.
3. Before admission and in conjunction with required health examinations, parents/guardians of children between the ages of 6 months and 6 years must provide a statement from a physician that their child was "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning.

#### Eye Examination

Parents/guardians are encouraged to have their children undergo an eye examination whenever health examinations are required.

Parents/guardians of students entering kindergarten or an Illinois school for the first time shall present proof before October 15 of the current school year that the student received an eye examination within one year prior to entry of kindergarten or the school. A physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches or a licensed optometrist must perform the required eye examination.

If a student fails to present proof by October 15, the school may hold the student's report card until the student presents proof: (1) of a completed eye exam, or (2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15. The Superintendent or designee shall insure that parents/guardians are notified of this eye examination requirement in compliance with rules of the Department of Public Health. Schools shall not exclude a student from attending school due to failure to obtain an eye examination.

#### Dental Examination

All children in kindergarten and the second and sixth grades must present proof of having been examined by a licensed dentist before May 15th of the current school year in accordance with rules adopted by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

If a student in the second or sixth grade fails to present proof by May 15, the school may hold the child's report card until the child presents proof: (1) of a completed dental exam, or (2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15. The Superintendent or designee shall insure that parents/guardians are notified of this dental examination requirement at least 60 days before May 15 of each school year.

### First Day Exclusion

Unless the student is homeless, failure to comply with the above requirements will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the District. All students currently enrolled in District No. 202, who will be matriculating to grades six (6) and nine (9) must present proof of having undergone a health examination, including immunizations for those communicable diseases as prescribed by the Department of Health in order to attend school on the first day of the current school year. Such students will be excluded from school until proof of having received the required health examination and immunizations is presented to the School District. All students transferring into District No. 202 must present documentation of all immunization dates and a current health examination in order to register. Children entering preschool, kindergarten or 1<sup>st</sup> grade, who have not previously been enrolled in kindergarten, must have proof of a health examination with up-to-date immunizations on file with the school in order to begin school. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization, the student must present an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by the physician, advanced practice nurse, physician assistant, or local health department responsible for administering the immunizations.

### Exemptions

In accordance with rules adopted by the Illinois Department of Public Health, a student will be exempted from this policy's requirements for:

1. Religious or medical grounds if the student's parents/guardians present to the Superintendent a signed statement explaining the objection;
2. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds if a physician provides written verification;
3. Eye examination requirement if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist; or
4. Dental examination requirement if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or lack of access to a dentist.

### Homeless Students

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce immunization and health records normally required for enrollment, Board policy 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, governs the enrollment of homeless children.

### Tuberculosis Screening

Due to the high incidence of Tuberculosis in Will County, all students transferring into District No. 202, entering from out of country must be screened for Tuberculosis, and present documentation of being free from the disease in order to register.

Will County Health Department recommends TB screening of persons in high-risk groups. Foreign-born persons, including children, who have arrived within the past 5 years from countries that have a high TB incidence or prevalence, are considered a high- risk group.

### Exemption from Physical Education

Exemptions of students from physical examinations on constitutional grounds do not exempt them from participation in the physical education program nor do such exemptions absolve parents of the responsibilities for accidents or illness occurring in physical education class.

A physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois shall base the exemption of a student from participation in physical education because of a disability upon a report of an examination.

Interscholastic Athletics

Students who participate in interscholastic athletics shall have a physical examination required by the Illinois High School Association.

Additional Examinations

Students may be required to have additional examinations when deemed necessary by school authorities.

Cost of Examinations

The cost of all physical examinations shall be borne by the parents or guardians or the students.

LEGAL REF.: McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq.  
105 ILCS 5/27-8.1.  
410 ILCS 45/7.1 and 315/2e.  
77 Ill. Admin. Code Part 665.

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:140 (Education of Homeless Children),  
6:180 (Extended Instructional Programs), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student  
Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

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