

Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of periodic health assessments according to state health regulations.

To determine health status of students, facilitate the removal of disabilities to learning and find whether some special adaptation of the school program may be necessary, the Board of Education requires that students have health assessments.

The Board of Education adheres to those state laws and regulations that pertain to school immunizations and health assessments. It is the policy of the Board of Education to insure that all enrolled students are adequately immunized against communicable diseases in accordance with the law. The Board may deny continued attendance in school to any student who fails to obtain the health assessments required under C.G.S. 10-206, as may be periodically amended.

It is the responsibility of the Principal to insure that each student enrolled has been adequately immunized and has fulfilled the required health assessments in accordance with the law. The school nurse shall check and document immunizations and health assessments on all students enrolling in school and to report the status to the school principal. The school nurse shall also contact parents or guardians to make them aware if immunizations and/or health assessments are insufficient or not up-to-date. The school nurse will maintain in good order the immunization and health assessment records of each student enrolled.

No record of any student's medical assessment may be open to the public.

As required, the District will annually report to the Department of Public Health and to the local health director the asthma data, pertaining to the total number of students per school and for the district, obtained through the required asthma assessments, including student demographics. Such required asthma diagnosis shall occur at the time of mandated health assessment at the time of enrollment, in either grade six or seven, and in either grade nine or ten. Such asthma diagnosis shall be reported whether or not it is recorded on the health assessment form, at the aforementioned intervals. The District, as required, will also participate in annual school surveys conducted by the Department of Public Health pertaining to asthma.

In accordance with state law, the Stafford Board of Education shall not be liable for civil damages resulting from an adverse reaction to a nondefective vaccine required to be administered by state law.

(cf. 5111 - Admission)

(cf. 5141.31 - Physical Examinations for School Programs)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5125.11 -Health/Medical Records- HIPAA)

(cf. 5141- Student Health Services)

Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations (continued)

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes

- § 10-204a Required immunizations
- § 10-204c Immunity from liability
- § 10-206 Health assessments
- § 10-206a Free health assessments-
- § 10-208 Exemption from examination or treatment
- § 10-214 Vision, audiometric and postural screenings: When required; notification of Parents re defects; record of results.

Public Act 15-215, "An Act Concerning Various Revisions and Additions to the Education Statutes."

Public Act 15-174, "An Act Concerning Childhood Vaccinations."

Public Act 15-242, "An Act Concerning Various Revisions to the Public Health Statutes."

Connecticut Agencies Regulations

- § 10-204a-2a Adequate Immunization

Letter to Superintendents of Schools et al. from Connecticut State Department of Education, *Reinstatement of Prekindergarten and Kindergarten School Immunization Entry Requirement for Haemophilus Influenza Type B (Hib) Vaccine*, June 25, 2010.

Letter to Superintendents of Schools et al. from Connecticut State Department of Education, *Changes in the Immunization Requirements for School Entry*, March 15, 2011.

Federal Law:

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Public Law 107-110, § 1061, codified at 20 U.S.C. § 1232h.

State of Connecticut Department of Education, Bureau of School, Family, Community Partnerships, *Cumulative Health Records Guidelines* (2003).

Policy adopted: December 5, 2011
 Policy revised: January 12, 2015
 Policy revised: June 8, 2015
 Policy revised: March 21, 2016

STAFFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 Stafford Springs, Connecticut

Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes 10-206, as amended, 10-204a, and 10-214, the following health assessment procedures are established for students in the district:

Immunizations

- 1) Proof of immunization shall be required prior to school entry. A "school-aged child" also includes any student enrolled in an adult education program that leads to a high school diploma. This immunization verification is mandatory for all new school enterers and must include complete documentation of those immunizations requiring a full series. A required immunization record includes the following:

State of Connecticut
Department of Public Health
Immunization Requirements for Enrolled Students in Connecticut Schools
Starting 2016-2017 School Year

PRESCHOOL

DTaP:	4 doses by 18 months
Polio:	3 doses by 18 months
MMR:	1 dose on or after 1st birthday
HepB:	3 doses, last one on or after 24 weeks of age
Varicella:	1 dose on or after 1st birthday or verification of disease
Hib:	1 dose on or after 1st birthday
Pneumococcal:	1 dose on or after 1st birthday
Influenza:	1 dose administered each year between Aug. 1-Dec. 31 (2 doses separated by at least 28 days required for those receiving flu for the first time)
Hepatitis A:	2 doses given six calendar months apart, 1 st dose on or after 1st birthday

KINDERGARTEN

DTaP:	At least 4 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4 th birthday
Polio:	At least 3 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4 th birthday
MMR:	2 doses separated by at least 28 days, 1st dose on or after the 1 st birthday
HepB:	3 doses, last dose on or after 24 weeks of age
Varicella:	2 doses separated by at least 3 months- 1st dose on or after the 1st birthday; or verification of disease

Students**Health Assessments and Immunizations (continued)****Immunizations (continued)****Kindergarten (continued)**

Hib:	1 dose on or after 1st birthday for children less than 5 years old
Pneumococcal:	1 dose on or after 1st birthday for children less than 5 years old
Hepatitis A:	2 doses given six calendar months apart, 1st dose on or after 1st birthday

GRADES 1-4

DTaP/Td:	At least 4 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4th birthday. Students who start the series at age 7 or older only need a total of 3 doses.
Polio:	At least 3 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4th birthday
MMR	2 doses separated by at least 28 days, 1st dose on or after 1st birthday
HepB	3 doses, last dose on or after 24 weeks of age
Varicella	2 doses separated by at least 3 months-1st dose on or after 1st birthday; or verification of disease
HepA	2 doses given six calendar months apart, 1st dose on or after 1st birthday

GRADE 5

DTaP/Td:	At least 4 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4th birthday. Students who start the series at age 7 or older only need a total of 3 doses.
Polio:	At least 3 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4th birthday
MMR:	2 doses separated by at least 28 days, 1st dose on or after 1st birthday
HepB:	3 doses, last dose on or after 24 weeks of age
Varicella:	2 doses separated by at least 3 months-1st dose on or after 1st birthday; or verification of disease

GRADES 6

DTaP/Td/Tdap:	At least 4 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4th birthday. Students who start the series at age 7 or older only need a total of 3 doses.
Polio:	At least 3 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4th birthday
MMR:	2 doses separated by at least 28 days, 1st dose on or after 1st birthday
HepB:	3 doses, last dose on or after 24 weeks of age
Varicella:	1 dose on or after the 1st birthday; or verification of disease

Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations (continued)

Immunizations (continued)

GRADES 7-12

Tdap/Td:	1 dose for students who have completed their primary DTaP series. Students who start the series at age 7 or older only need a total of 3 doses of tetanus-diphtheria containing vaccine, one of which must be Tdap
Polio:	At least 3 doses. The last dose must be given on or after 4th birthday
MMR:	2 doses separated by at least 28 days, 1st dose on or after 1st birthday
Meningococcal:	1 dose
HepB:	3 doses, last dose on or after 24 weeks of age
Varicella:	2 doses separated by at least 3 months-1st dose on or after 1st birthday; or verification of disease

Important Reminders:

- DTaP vaccine is not given on or after the 7th birthday and may be given for all doses in the primary series.
- Tdap can be given in lieu of Td vaccine for children 7 years and older unless contraindicated. Tdap is only licensed for one dose.
- Hib is not required for children 5 years of age or older.
- Pneumococcal is required for all Pre-K and K students less than 5 years of age.
- Hepatitis A requirement for school year 2016-2017 applies to all Pre-K, K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade students born 1/1/07 or later.
- Hep B requirement for school year 2016-2017 applies to all students in grades K-12. Spacing intervals for a valid Hep B series: at least 4 weeks between doses 1 and 2; 8 weeks between doses 2 and 3; at least 16 weeks between doses 1 and 3; dose 3 should not be given before 24 weeks of age.
- Second MMR for school year 2016-2017 applies to all students in grades K-12.
- Meningococcal Conjugate requirement for school year 2016-2017 applies to all students in grades 7-12.
- Tdap requirement for school year 2016-2017 applies to all students in grades 7-12,
- If two live virus vaccines (MMR, Varicella, MMRV, Intranasal Influenza) are not administered on the same day, they must be separated by at least 28 days (there is no 4 day grace period for live virus vaccines). If they are not separated by at least 28 days, the vaccine administered second must be repeated.
- Lab confirmation of immunity is **only** acceptable for Hep A, Hep B, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Varicella.

Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations (continued) Immunizations(continued)

- VERIFICATION OF VARICELLA DISEASE: Confirmation in writing by a MD, PA, or APRN that the child has a previous history of disease, based on family or medical history.
- If you are unsure if a child is in compliance, please call the Immunization Program at (860) 509-7929.

For the full legal requirements for school entry visit
www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3136&Q=467374&P=1

New Entrant Definition

*New entrants are any students who are new to the school district, including **all** preschoolers and all students coming in from Connecticut private, parochial and charter schools located in the same or another community. **All preschoolers, as well as students entering kindergarten**, including those repeating kindergarten, and those moving from any public or private pre-school program, even in the same school district, **are considered new entrants**. The one exception is students returning from private approved special education placements-they are not considered new entrants.

Immunization requirements are satisfied if a student:

- (i) presents verification of the above mentioned required immunizations to a nurse or a local health agency stating that initial immunizations have been administered to the child and additional immunizations are in process under guidelines and schedules specified by the Commissioner of Health; or
- (ii) presents a certificate from a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice nurse
- (iii) stating that in the opinion of such physician, physician assistant or advanced practice nurse such immunization is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of the child; or
- (iv) presents a statement from the parents or guardian of the child that such immunization would be contrary to religious beliefs of the child or the parents or guardians of such child, which statement shall be acknowledged by:
 - (A) a judge of a court of record or a family support magistrate,
 - (B) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal,
 - (C) a town clerk,
 - (D) a notary public,
 - (E) a justice of the peace,

Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations (continued)

New Entrant Definition(continued)

- (F) an attorney admitted to the bar of the State of Connecticut, or
- (G) a school nurse; or
- (v) in the case of measles, mumps or rubella, presents a certificate from a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse or from the Director of Health in such child's present or previous town of residence, stating that the child has had a confirmed case of such disease; or
- (vi) in the case hemophilus influenzae type B, has passed his/her fifth birthday; or
- (vii) in the case of pertussis, has passed his/her sixth birthday.

Before being permitted to enter the seventh grade, the parents or guardians of any child who is exempt on religious grounds from the immunization requirements, pursuant to subdivision (iv) above, shall present to the Board a statement that such immunization requirements are contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or the parents or guardian of such child, which statement shall be acknowledged in the same manner as required by subdivision (iv) above.

Students failing to meet the above requirements shall not be allowed to attend school.

Health Assessments

- 1) Prior to enrollment in the Stafford Public Schools, each student must undergo a health assessment, which shall include:
 - (a) a physical examination which includes hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height, weight, blood pressure, and a chronic disease assessment which shall include; but not be limited to, asthma as defined by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to subsection (c) of section 19a-62a of the Connecticut General Statutes. The assessment form shall include (A) a check box for the provider conducting the assessment, to indicate an asthma diagnosis, (B) screening questions relating to appropriate public health concerns to be answered by the parent or guardian, and (C) screening questions to be answered by such provide
 - (b) an updating of immunizations as required by state law;
 - (c) vision, hearing, speech and gross dental screenings;
 - (d) such other information, including health and developmental history, as the physician feels is necessary and appropriate.

Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations(continued)

Health Assessments(continued)

The pre-enrollment assessment shall also include tests for tuberculosis, sickle cell anemia or Cooley's anemia, and tests for lead levels in the blood if, after consultation with the school medical advisor and the local health department, the Board determines that such tests are necessary. Such tests must be conducted by a registered nurse acting pursuant to the written order of a physician, or physician's assistant, licensed under state law, or an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed under state law.

- 2) Each student enrolled in the Stafford Public Schools in grade six or seven and in grade nine or ten must undergo a health assessment, which shall include:

(a) a physical examination which includes hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height, weight, blood pressure, and a chronic disease assessment which shall include; but not be limited to, asthma as defined by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to subsection (c) of section 19a-62a of the Connecticut General Statutes. The assessment form shall include (A) a check box for the provider conducting the assessment, to indicate an asthma diagnosis, (B) screening questions relating to appropriate public health concerns to be answered by the parent or guardian, and (C) screening questions to be answered by such provider;

(b) an updating of immunizations as required by state law;

(c) vision, hearing, postural and gross dental screenings;

(d) such other information, including health and developmental history, as the physician feels is necessary and appropriate.

The grade six/seven and grade nine/ten assessments shall also include tests for tuberculosis, and sickle cell anemia or Cooley's anemia, if, after consultation with the school medical advisor and the local health department, the Board determines that such tests are necessary. Such tests must be conducted by a registered nurse acting pursuant to the written order of a physician, or physician's assistant, licensed under state law, or of an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed under state law.

- 3) The Board of Education shall provide such assessments free of charge to students whose parents or guardians meet the eligibility requirements for free and reduced price meals under the National School Lunch Program or for free milk under the special milk program.

Health assessments completed within one calendar year of new school entry or grades 6 or 7, or grade 9 or 10 will be accepted by the school system. Failure of students to satisfy the above mentioned health assessment timeliness and/or requirements shall result in exclusion from school.

Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations (continued)

Health Assessments (continued)

- 4) Parents or guardians of students being excluded from school due to failure to meet health assessment requirements shall be given a thirty calendar day notice in writing, prior to any effective date of school exclusion. Failure to complete required health assessment components within this thirty day grace period shall result in school exclusion. This exclusion shall be verified, in writing, by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. Parents of excluded students may request administrative hearing of a health assessment-related exclusion within five days of final exclusion notice. An administrative hearing shall be conducted and a decision rendered within fifteen calendar days after receipt of request. A subcommittee of the Board of Education shall conduct an administrative hearing and will consider written and/or oral testimony offered by parents and/or school officials.

- 5) Health screenings shall be required for all students according to the following schedule:

Vision Screening	Grades K, 1, 3-5
Audiometric Screening	Grades K, 1, 3-5
Postural Screening	Females: Grades 5 and 7 Males: Grades 8 or 9

The school system shall provide these screening to students at no cost to parents. Parents/guardians shall be provided an annual written notification of screenings to be conducted. Parents/guardians wishing to have these screenings to be conducted by their private physician shall be required to report screening results to the school nurse.

(Health assessments may be conducted by a licensed physician, advanced practice registered nurse, physician assistant or by the School Medical Advisor.)

- 6) Parents/guardians of students failing to meet standards of screening or deemed in need of further testing shall be notified in writing by the Superintendent of Schools or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall also provide written notice to the parent/guardian of each student who did not receive such as screening, with a brief statement explaining why the student did not receive such screening.
- 7) Nothing in these administrative regulations shall be construed to require any student to undergo a physical or medical examination or treatment, or be compelled to receive medical instruction, if the parent or legal guardian of such student or the student, if he/she is an emancipated minor or is eighteen (18) years of age or older, notifies the teacher or principal or other person in charge of such student in writing that he/she objects on religious grounds to such physical or medical examination or treatment or medical instruction.
- 8) Health records shall be maintained in accordance with Policy #5125

If a student requires medical attention due to an injury sustained in a practice, contest or game, or from an incident outside of school activities that requires him/her to forgo either a practice session, contest or game, the student will not be permitted to return to athletic activity until the physician pronounces him/her medically fit for participation.

Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations (continued)

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes

§ 10-204a Required immunizations

§ 10-204c Immunity from liability

§ 10-206 Health assessments

§ 10-206a Free health assessments

§ 10-208 Exemption from examination or treatment

§ 10-214 Vision, audiometric and postural screenings: When required; notification of parents re defects; record of results

Public Act 15-215, "An Act Concerning Various Revisions and Additions to the Education Statutes."

Public Act 15-174, "An Act Concerning Childhood Vaccinations."

Public Act 15-242, "An Act Concerning Various Revisions to the Public Health Statutes."

Connecticut Agencies Regulations

§ 10-204a-2a Adequate Immunization

Letter to Superintendents of Schools et al. from Connecticut State Department of Education, *Reinstatement of Prekindergarten and Kindergarten School Immunization Entry Requirement for Haemophilus Influenza Type B (Hib) Vaccine*, June 25, 2010.

Letter to Superintendents of Schools et al. from Connecticut State Department of Education, *Changes in the Immunization Requirements for School Entry*, March 15, 2011.

Federal Law:

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Public Law 107-110, § 1061, codified at 20 U.S.C. § 1232h.

State of Connecticut Department of Education, Bureau of School, Family, Community Partnerships, *Cumulative Health Records Guidelines* (2003).

Regulation approved: December 5, 2011

Regulation revised: January 12, 2015

Regulation revised: June 8, 2015

Regulation revised: March 21, 2016

STAFFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Stafford Springs, Connecticut