

Student Immunization

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases and in recognition that prevention is a means of combating the spread of disease, the Board requires all students to present evidence of their having been immunized against the following diseases: diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), poliomyelitis, measles (rubella), mumps, and tetanus. Pertussis immunization is not required for students who are seven years or older. Hemophilus influenza type "b" immunization is required for students under the age of five.

Upon initial enrollment, an immunization status form, prescribed by the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, shall be completed by the student's parent or guardian. The certificate shall be made a part of the student's permanent record.

A pupil who transfers into the District from another district may photocopy immunization records in the possession of the school of origin. The District will accept the photocopy as evidence of immunization. The original records must be presented within thirty (30) days.

The Board may grant exemptions from one or more vaccines for medical reasons upon certification by a physician indicating the specific nature and probable duration of the medical condition for not administering the vaccine(s). Exemptions for religious reasons must be filed annually. The statement for an exemption shall be maintained as part of the student's immunization record. The permanent file of students with exemptions shall be marked for easy identification should the Department of Health order that exempted students be excluded from school temporarily when the risk of contracting or transmitting a disease exists. Exclusion shall not exceed 30 calendar days.

The Board of Trustees may allow the commencement of attendance in school by a student who has not been immunized against each disease listed in § 20-5-403, MCA, if that student has received one or more doses of polio, measles (rubella), mumps, diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus vaccine, except that pertussis vaccine is not required for a person 7 years of age or older.

The District shall exclude a student for noncompliance with the immunization laws and properly notify the parent or guardian. The local health department may seek an injunction requiring the parent to submit an immunization status form, take action to fully immunize the student or file an exemption for personal or medical reasons.

Legal Reference:	§ 20-3-324(20), MCA § 20-5-401 through 410, MCA § 20-5-403, MCA	Powers and Duties Health Immunization required – release and acceptance of immunization records
------------------	---	---

Policy History:

Adopted on: 2008-09

Revised on: 11-15-2018