Students

Health Assessments and Immunizations

The Orange Board of Education recognizes the importance of periodic health assessments that are required by state health regulations.

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

It is the policy of the Board of Education to ensure that all enrolled students are adequately immunized against communicable diseases. The Board may deny continued attendance in school to any student who fails to obtain the health assessments required under C.G.S. <u>10</u>-206, as may be periodically amended.

Parents wishing their children exempted or excused from health assessments on religious grounds must request such exemption to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee in writing. This request must be signed by the parent/guardian.

Parents/guardians wanting their children excused from immunizations on religious grounds (prior to entry) must request such exemptions in writing from the Superintendent of Schools. The request must be officially acknowledged by a notary public or a judge, a clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal, a town clerk, justice of the peace, a Connecticut-licensed attorney, or a school nurse or from the parents or guardian of the child that such immunization would be contrary to religious beliefs of the child or his/her parents/guardians.

The school nurse shall check and document immunizations and health assessments on all students enrolling in school and report the status to the school principal. It is the responsibility of the Principal or his or her designee to ensure that each student enrolled has been adequately immunized and has fulfilled the required health assessments. The school nurse shall also contact the parents or guardians of students 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.

Students born in high risk countries and entering school in Connecticut for the first time should receive either TST (tuberculin skin test) or IGRA (interferon-gamma release assay). Any individual found to be positive shall have an appropriate medical management plan developed that includes a chest radiograph.

Students not already known to have a positive test for tuberculosis should be tested if they meet any of the risk factors for TB infection, as described in the administrative regulations accompanying this policy.

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

When required, the district will 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 and in grade six. Such asthma diagnosis shall be reported whether or not it is recorded on the health assessment at the aforementioned intervals. The district, when required, will also participate in school surveys conducted by the Department of Public Health pertaining to asthma.

The Superintendent of Schools or his or her designee shall give written notice to the parent/guardian of each student who is found to have any defect of vision or disease of the eyes, with a brief statement describing such defect or disease and a recommendation that the student be examined by an appropriately licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist.

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(cf. 5111 - Admission)
(cf. 5141.31 - Physical Examinations for School Programs)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 5125.11 Health Medical Records - HIPAA)
(c.F. 5141 Student Health Services)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-204 Vaccination
10-204a Required immunizations as amended by P.A. 15-174 & P.A. 15-242)
10-204c Immunity from liability
10-205 Appointment of school medical adviser
10-206 Health assessments
10-207 Duties of medical advisors
10-206a Free health assessments
10-208 Exemption from examination or treatment
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10-208a Physical activity of student rest cites; board to hone notice

<u>10</u>-209 Records not be public. Provision of reports to schools

10-212 School nurses

<u>10</u>-214 Vision, audiometric and postural screenings. When required. Notification of parents re defects; record of results, as amended by PA 96-229, An Act Concerning Scoliosis Screening

Department of Public Health, Public Health Code, <u>10</u>-204a-2a, <u>10</u>-204a-3a, <u>10</u>-204a-4

Section 4 of PA 14-231

20 U.S.C. Section 1232h, No Child Left Behind Act

Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (section 438 of the General Education Provisions Act, as amended, added by section 513 of P.L. 93-568, codified at 20 U.S.C. 1232g.

P.L. 93-568; codified as 20 U.S.C. 1232g

42 U.S.C. 1320d-1320d-8 P.L. 104-191, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)

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