
HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

Pupils who enter the district schools for the first time shall have a medical examination conducted at the medical home of the student, and a full report sent to the school. If a student does not have a medical home, the district shall provide this examination at the school physician's office or other appropriately equipped facility. "Medical home" means a health care provider and that provider's practice site chosen by the student's parent/guardian for the provision of health care. As the school physician is also a health care provider, the parent/guardian may request that the school physician provide the medical examination.

A pupil shall be exempted from mandatory immunization if the parent/guardian objects to immunization in a written statement submitted to the principal, signed by the parent/guardian, explaining how the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with the pupil's exercise of bona fide religious tenets or practices. General philosophical or moral objection to immunization shall not be sufficient for an exemption on religious grounds.

Every pupil who enters the district schools for the first time shall present an immunization record as required by law. At the parent/guardian's request, these immunizations may be administered by the school physician. NOTE: THIS IS PERMISSIVE, NOT REQUIRED.

In order to protect the health of the children and staff in district schools, all regulations of the state department of education, the state department of health and the local board of health shall be scrupulously observed, particularly those dealing with contagious/infectious diseases or conditions.

Pupils seeking to enter school who have been identified as having a communicable/infectious disease or condition shall not be enrolled unless they qualify under the above agencies' rules pertaining to periods of incubation, communicability, quarantine and reporting.

The chief school administrator or his/her designee shall formulate regulations that ensure immunization records are reviewed and updated annually pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 through 4.16. The chief school administrator shall also formulate regulations for this policy and for regular pupil health examinations at appropriate grade levels; before participation in sports programs; and for tuberculosis, scoliosis, hearing loss, visual acuity and any other physical examinations required by law. Any health defects revealed by any examination given by the school health services must be reported to the parent/guardian. The board shall review the regulations and adopt those required by law.

Parent Notice

In accordance with federal law, the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), parents/guardians shall be notified annually of the opportunity for the parent/guardian to opt the student out of any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is:

- A. Required as a condition of attendance;
- B. Administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and
- C. Not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, or of other students.

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Revision and Adoption: April 27, 2017

Legal References:

Mandated:

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.1 et. seq. directs the board to develop policies and programs on various aspects of health examinations, and the provision of health services including immunization, administration of medication, treatment of asthma, medical examinations, nursing services and emergency medical situations.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.1 requires policy on assessment, intervention, referral for evaluation, referral for treatment and discipline of students whose use of alcohol or other drugs has affected school performance. Examination by a physician is included.

Every Student Succeeds Act requires districts that receive federal funds to adopt policies on the administration of any physical examinations or screenings conducted by the board. Other NCLB required policy topics under amendments to the Protection of Pupil Rights law are addressed in file code 6162.5 Research.

Other Reasons:

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(a) requires each school district to ensure that immunization records are reviewed and updated annually pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 through 4.16.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(c) requires tuberculosis tests on students based upon the incidence of tuberculosis or reactor rates in specific communities or population groups.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(f) requires student medical exams be conducted at the “medical home” of the student or by the school physician.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h) describes the circumstances for required student medical examinations – entry into school, pursuant to a comprehensive child study team evaluation, and when applying for working papers.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)1 requires the examination of any candidate for a school athletic squad to be conducted within 365 days prior to the first practice session and lists the components of that examination.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)1, ii, (2), lists the components of the examination including abnormal curvature of the spine.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)5 requires the examination of any student suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and controlled dangerous substances.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.3 describes required school health services personnel and sets out their responsibilities.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.4(a) requires the board to maintain student health records to include the findings of health histories; medical examinations and health screenings pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2 and 4.3; and documentation of immunizations against communicable diseases or exemption from those immunizations.

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) requires that parents/guardians be notified annually of the opportunity to opt their child out of any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is: 1) required as a condition of attendance; 2) administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, or of other students.

Recommendation:

A policy directing compliance with law in all matters of examinations and immunizations. The examinations for determination of whether the pupil is under the influence of drugs/alcohol should be dealt with specifically at 5131.6.

<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-4.6 through -4.8	Parents Rights to Conscience Act of 1979
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4	Examination for physical defects and screening of hearing of pupils; health records
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4.3	Scoliosis; periodic examination; notice to parents or guardian
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4.4	Exemption
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4.5	Immunity from action of any kind due to provisions of act
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-5	Method of examination; notice to parent or guardian
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-6	In general
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-11	Exclusion of pupils having communicable tuberculosis
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-16 through -19	Tuberculosis infection; determination of presence ...
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-20	Immunization at public expense
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:61D-8 through -10	Findings, declarations relative to Hepatitis B vaccinations
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:1A-9.1	Exemption of pupils from mandatory immunizations
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:4-6	Prohibiting attendance of teachers or pupils
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:2T-5 through -9	Findings, declarations relative to Hepatitis C
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:14-3.4	Evaluation
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-1.1et seq.	Programs to Support Student Development
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-1.3, -1.4, -2.1, -2.2, -2.3, -2.4, -4.1, -4.3	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-9.1	Athletics Procedures
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-2	Reporting of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and infection with Human Immunodeficiency Virus
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.1	Applicability
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.2	Proof of immunization
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.3	Medical exemptions
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.4	Religious exemptions
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.5	Provisional admission
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.6	Documents accepted as evidence of immunization
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.7	Records required
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.8	Reports to be sent to the State Department of Health
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.9	Records available for inspection
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.10	Diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.11	Poliovirus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.12	Measles virus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.13	Rubella vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.14	Mumps vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.15	Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib) conjugate vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.16	Hepatitis B virus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.17	Varicella virus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.18	Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.19	Influenza vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.20	Meningococcal vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.21	Providing immunization
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.22	Emergency power of the Commissioner, Department of Health and Senior Services
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:61-2.1	Attendance at school by pupils or adults infected by Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV)

Plainfield Board of Education v. Cooperman, 105 NJ 587 (1987)

Every Student Succeeds Act , Pub. L. 114-95, 20 U.S.C.A. 6301 et seq.

Possible

<u>Cross References:</u>	1410	Local units
	4123	Classroom aides
	5111	Admission
	5113	Absences and excuses
	5131.6	Drugs, alcohol, tobacco (substance abuse)
	5141	Health
	5141.21	Administering medication
	5200	Nonpublic school pupils
	6142.4	Physical education and health
	6145.1/6145.2	Intramural competition; interscholastic competition
	6162.5	Research
	6164.4	Child study team
	6171.4	Special education

Key Words

Immunizations, Inoculations, Examinations, Pupil Physical Examinations, Student Physical Examinations, Health