

Students

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS ON HEALTH ASSESSMENTS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

5141.3AR

Health Assessments

Each student enrolled in the Fairfield schools shall be required to have a health assessment by a legally qualified practitioner of medicine (physician or osteopath licensed to practice in the United States), an advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant licensed to practice in Connecticut or by a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, an advanced practice registered nurse, or a physician assistant stationed at any military base.

I. Acceptable Dates for Health Assessments

- a. Health assessments required for initial enrollment in preschool programs and kindergarten shall be done on or after August 15th of the school year preceding initial enrollment into these grades.
- b. For the 2020-21 school year health assessments required for initial enrollment in preschool programs and kindergarten shall be done on or after August 15 of the two school years preceding initial enrollment in these grades.
- c. Health assessments required for initial enrollment of transfer students shall be done as recently as the last required health assessment for the student's grade level.
- d. Health assessments required for students in grades 6 and 9 shall be done on or after August 15th of the school year preceding entrance into those grades and must be submitted to the school prior to entrance into grades 7 and 10 respectively.
- e. For the 2020-21 school year only, health assessments required for entering grades 7 and 10 must be submitted prior to December 31, 2020.
- f. Health assessments required for ungraded students shall be done in accordance with the acceptable health assessment dates for students of the same age cohort as the ungraded students.
- g. Only those health assessments performed by a legally qualified practitioner of medicine (physician or osteopath licensed to practice in the United States), an advanced registered nurse, or physician assistant licensed to practice in Connecticut or by a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, an advanced practice registered nurse or a physician assistant stationed at any military base are acceptable.

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II. High School Interscholastic Sports

- a. High school interscholastic sports include all sports teams and sports clubs that compete against other schools including cheerleading squads.

III. Countries with a High Prevalence of Tuberculosis

There are many countries with a high prevalence of tuberculosis. For the most updated information, please check the list found in the Tuberculosis Control Screening Guidelines for Connecticut Schools, CT Department of Public Health, Infectious Disease Division.

IV. Information to be Included on Health Assessments

- a. Each health assessment shall include a hematocrit or hemoglobin test, height, weight, blood pressure, screening questions to be answered by the parent or guardian and examiner, an updating of immunizations as needed, vision, hearing, speech and gross dental screenings and such other information as the examiner deems appropriate. Health assessments required in grades 6 and 9 and health assessments required for high school interscholastic sports shall also include postural screening. Each health assessment shall include a chronic disease assessment which shall include, but not be limited to whether the student has a diagnosis of asthma. Health assessments shall include a tuberculosis risk assessment and, if indicated, a Mantoux tuberculin skin test, as required in the Health Assessment policy. The examiner performing the health assessment shall complete and sign the health assessment form and any recommendations concerning the student shall be made in writing.
- b. The results of a chest x-ray may be accepted in lieu of a tuberculin skin test, with the approval of the Nursing Supervisor.
- c. Students with a history of a positive Mantoux tuberculin skin test shall have either documentation of a satisfactory follow-up chest x-ray or documentation of completion of a proper course of medical treatment.

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V. Procedure for Notification of Parent/Guardian Regarding
Health Assessment Requirements

- a. Parents of students registering for school will be given the State of Connecticut Health Assessment form and parent letter regarding health assessment requirements.

At the time of registration, a “Requirement for Registration” form will be given to the parent/guardian for review of the health assessment requirements at the time of registration. The form signed by the parent/guardian will be submitted to the school nurse with the other health assessment requirements prior to the student’s entry in school.

- b. For grades Six (6) and Nine (9)

- In May, the nurse sends State of Connecticut Health Assessment Form and notification to parents who have children who will enter grade six or grade 9 in the next school year.
- In November, the nurse sends a reminder notification to parents of sixth and ninth graders if the required health assessment has not yet been received. The notification to parents will include information on completing an application to have a health assessment done in school, if desired by the parent. The nurse will send additional reminders to parents later in the school year as needed.
- The nurse will attempt to secure all required health assessments prior to the end of the school year and will prepare a list of any students not in compliance prior to the end of the school year. The nurse will submit list to Nursing Supervisor who will send an additional notice to parents/guardians of these students. The nurse will keep list accessible to verify compliance prior to the start of the next school year.

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c. For Interscholastic Sports:

- Athletic department personnel will notify potential sports participants of health assessment requirement and provide them with the appropriate form.
- Health assessments will be submitted to the school nurse.

d. Review of Health Assessments by School Nurse

- The School Nurse shall review each health assessment and make recommendation to parents for further evaluation of abnormal results as needed. The School Nurse shall inform the principal and/or other appropriate school personnel of recommendations made on a student's health assessment when indicated.

e. Incomplete Health Assessments

- Incomplete health assessments shall be returned to the parent with a letter from the school nurse indicating the information needed for completion. Health assessments which do not contain all information in III a. (above) shall be returned to the parent for completion in the same manner. No student shall be permitted to enter or continue to attend school or participate in sports until the required health assessment is complete.

f. Recording of Health Assessments

- Each health assessment received shall be recorded on and stored in the student's Cumulative Health Record.

VI. Required Immunizations

- a. A complete immunization record must be presented before a child enters school. For all students, this record must indicate dates of adequate immunization in accordance with the State of Connecticut. For further information, parents/guardian may contact the school nurse.

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VI. Required Immunizations (continued)

PRESCHOOL:

DTaP: 4 doses (by 18 months for programs with children 18 months of age)

Polio: 3 doses (by 18 months for programs with children 18 months of age)

MMR: 1 dose on or after 1st birthday

Hepatitis B: 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 August 1st – December 31st (2 doses separated by at 28 days required for those receiving flu for the first time)

Hepatitis A: 2 doses given six calendar months apart, 1st dose on or after 1st birthday

KINDERGARTEN:

DTaP: At least 4 doses. The last dose on or after 4th birthday.

Polio: At least 3 doses The last dose on or after 4th birthday.

MMR: 2 doses separated by at least 28 days. 1st dose on or after 1st birthday

Hepatitis B: 3 doses, last one 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

Hib: 1 dose on or after 1st birthday for children less than 5 years of age.

Pneumococcal: 1 dose on or after 1st birthday for children less than 5 years of age.

Hepatitis A: 2 doses given six calendar months apart, 1st dose on or after 1st birthday

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VI. Required Immunizations (continued)

GRADES 1-5:

DTaP/Td: At least 4 doses. The last dose on or after 4th birthday. Students who start the series at age 7 or older need a total of 3 doses

Polio: At least 3 doses The last dose on or after 4th birthday.

MMR: 2 doses separated by at least 28 days. 1st dose on or after 1st birthday

Hepatitis B: 3 doses, last one 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

Hepatitis A: 2 doses given six calendar months apart, 1st dose on or after 1st birthday

GRADE 6:

DTaP/Td: At least 4 doses. The last dose on or after 4th birthday. Students who start the series at age 7 or older need a total of 3 doses

Polio: At least 3 doses The last dose on or after 4th birthday.

MMR: 2 doses separated by at least 28 days. 1st dose on or after 1st birthday

Hepatitis B: 3 doses, last one on or after 24 weeks of age

Varicella: 1 dose on or after 1st birthday or verification of disease

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 need a total of 3 doses

Polio: At least 3 doses The last dose on or after 4th birthday.

MMR: 2 doses separated by at least 28 days. 1st dose on or after 1st birthday

Meningococcal Conjugate: 1 dose

Hepatitis B: 3 doses, last one 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

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VI. Required Immunizations (continued)

- b. Under certain circumstances, proof of immunity based upon specific blood testing or disease certification is acceptable in lieu of immunization. For further information, contact the school nurse.
 - i. Connecticut state statutes permit exemptions from receiving immunizations if vaccination is medically contraindicated and such contraindication is certified by a physician and is in accordance with the provisions of state law.
 - ii. Connecticut state statutes also permit exemptions from receiving immunizations if such immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs of the child or parent/guardian. A statement signed by the parent or guardian and acknowledged by a judge, town clerk, notary public or justice of the peace is required written statement is needed.

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