

Massachusetts Department of Public Health Regulation reads:

M.G.L. 71:57 and related amendments and regulations (105 CMR 200.000-200.920) require physical examinations of school children within six months before entry into school or during the first year after entrance, and at intervals of either three or four years thereafter, such as during kindergarten, fourth grade, seventh grade and tenth grade. It is the responsibility of the school committee to designate these intervals. In addition, physical examinations are required annually before participating in competitive sports, for children between 14 and 16 years of age requesting work permits, and when specifically requested by parents and teachers.

1. The School Committee has designated K, 3, 7, and 11 as school years in which physicals will be required.
2. All physicals will be kept on the student's health record.
3. Nurses can provide health providers with a form for physicals (MDPH private physician's form or subsequent evaluation form) if requested, or the provider may submit their own form.
4. Nurses will notify parents/legal guardians of the grade physical requirement in the spring preceding the school year in which the physical is required:
 - a. Parents/legal guardians of Kindergarten students will be notified through mailings, the community newspaper and at the Kindergarten registration.
 - b. Parents/legal guardians of 3rd, 7th and 11th graders will be notified in school newsletters and by letter.
5. When necessary, the school nurse will send second notices to parents/legal guardians during the 3rd, 7th and 11th grade year in an effort to obtain all physicals.
6. In coordination with the school physician, physicals will be offered periodically at school for students unable to obtain a physical examination with a primary care provider in the community.
7. The following screenings will be conducted by the school health services' staff:
 - a. Hearing & vision and height & weight screening will be conducted annually for all students.
 - b. Postural screening will be conducted annually for students in grades 5 through 9.
8. Any child shall be exempt on religious grounds from these examinations per MGL 71:57.
9. Parents/legal guardians will be notified of screening results by letter or telephone only if the student failed a screening examination or requires further care from their health care provider.

References: Comprehensive School Health Manual MDPH 5-23.

Regulations Adopted:
Regulations Reviewed:
Regulations Revised:

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