

IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS

R5505

1. The school nurse will record all immunization information on the Massachusetts School Health Record (per MDPH/MDOE) for each student enrolled in the Westford Public Schools. This information should include a complete date (preferably month, day and year, but at a minimum, the month and year) of each immunization. Each student will provide, to the school nurse, documentation of immunization which has been signed by the health care provider.
2. Immunization histories must be up-to-date for each child according to current state immunization guidelines.
3. A history of serologic proof of immunity will be accepted in lieu of immunization for measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, and varicella (chicken pox). In the case of varicella, a physician-certificate of parental history or physician diagnosis is also accepted.
4. Documentation of immunization compliance is a requirement for admittance to school. Students found not to be in compliance will be excluded from entry into school and not admitted until proof of vaccination is received.
5. Students without immunization documentation or serologic proof of immunity, will not be admitted to, or be allowed to remain in school, unless they can satisfy the following requirements:
 - a. Medical exemption is allowed if a health care provider submits documentation to school that an immunization is medically contraindicated.
 - b. Religious exemption is allowed if a parent/legal guardian submits a signed statement to school stating that immunizations are contrary to their sincere religious beliefs. This statement only needs to be submitted once.
6. Prior to entry to school all students' immunization records will be reviewed by school nurses and the Westford Board of Health for compliance with Massachusetts Immunization Law M.G.L. 76:15. Parents/legal guardians of those students not meeting requirements will be notified immediately by phone or letter of immunization(s) necessary for entry to school.
7. In the case of an outbreak of any of the vaccine preventable diseases, students who are not immunized against the offending infectious disease will not be allowed to remain in school. These students will be allowed to return to school when the school nurse receives documentation of immunization and student has been cleared by Westford Board of Health following Mass Department of Public Health isolation and quarantine regulations and protocol. In the case of the exempt students, the Westford Board of Health will determine when these students can safely return to school.

References: Immunization Law
DPH guidelines
MDPH Immunization Requirements for Entry 2001

Regulations Adopted:
Regulations Reviewed:
Regulations Revised:

WESTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Westford, Massachusetts 01886