

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

Students 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 healthcare provider and that provider's practice site chosen by the student's parent/guardian for the provision of healthcare. As the school physician is also a healthcare provider, the parent/guardian may request that the school physician provide the medical examination.

A student 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 student'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. Exemption from immunization for medical reasons requires written documentation from the child's physician.

Every student who enters the district schools for the first time shall present an immunization record as required by law.

In order to protect the health of the children and staff in district schools, all regulations of the New Jersey Department of Education, New Jersey Department of health, and the local board of health shall be scrupulously observed, particularly those dealing with contagious/infectious diseases or conditions. Students 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 superintendent or 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 superintendent shall also formulate regulations for this policy and for regular student 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 Rahway Board of Education shall review the regulations and adopt those required by law.

Pandemic Reopening and Recovery

- A. Students are required to wear face coverings, unless doing so would inhibit the student's health. It is necessary to acknowledge that enforcing the use of face coverings may be impractical for young children or individuals with disabilities. Exceptions:
1. Wearing a face covering would inhibit the student's health;
 2. The student is in extreme heat outdoors;
 3. The student is in water;
 4. A student's documented medical condition, or disability as reflected in an Individualized Education Program (IEP), precludes the use of face covering;
 5. The student is under the age of two (2), due to the risk of suffocation;
 6. During the period that a student is eating or drinking;
 7. Face coverings should not be placed on anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, or anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance (e.g. face coverings should not be worn by Pre-K students during nap time);
 8. The student is engaged in high intensity aerobic or anaerobic activities;
 9. Face coverings may be removed during gym and music classes when individuals are in a well-ventilated location and able to maintain a physical distance of six feet apart;

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS (continued)

10. When wearing a face covering creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task.

B. Screening and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

1. Adequate amount of personal protective equipment (PPE) shall be available, accessible, and provided for use by staff and students.
2. School staff and visitors are required to wear face coverings unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health or the individual is under two years of age.
3. Staff and students shall be screened for entry into the school building;
4. The principal or his or her designee shall develop a school entry plan that includes:
 - a. Staff assigned to do the screening;
 - b. Designated entrances that will be used to admit students;
 - c. The assignment of classes and grades to designated entrances and/or designated entrance times;
5. Staff must visually check students for symptoms upon arrival (which may include temperature checks) and/or confirm with families that students are free of COVID-19 symptoms;
6. Health checks must be conducted safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy laws and regulations;
7. Results must be documented when signs/symptoms of COVID-19 are observed;
8. Screening procedures shall take into account students with disabilities and accommodations that may be needed in the screening process for those students;

C. Procedures for symptomatic staff and students:

1. The school principal or his or her designee shall establish an isolation space;
2. Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 shall be safely and respectfully isolated from others. Students should remain in isolation with continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult;
3. Staff must provide continuous monitoring of symptoms;
4. The [current Communicable Disease Service](#) guidance for illness reporting shall be followed;
5. If a staff member becomes aware that an individual who has spent time in a district facility tests positive for COVID-19, the staff members shall notify the principal and the school nurse. The school nurse shall immediately notify the superintendent, local health officials, staff, and families of a confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality;

D. Preparations for when someone tests positive for COVID-19:

1. The school principal or his or her designee shall establish an isolation space;
2. Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 shall be safely and respectfully taken to the designated isolation space and isolated from others. Students should remain in isolation with continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult;
3. The [current Communicable Disease Service](#) guidance for illness reporting shall be followed;
4. Readmittance to school shall be consistent with [Department of Health guidance and information for schools](#) and Department of Health/Communicable Disease Service's [Quick Reference Guidance on Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Home Isolation for Persons Diagnosed with COVID-19](#);
5. Contact tracing shall be initiated including records of groups/cohorts, assigned staff, and daily attendance.

E. Protocols to address a positive case:

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS (continued)

Students and employees may be asked to leave or not come into school if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit one or more of the symptoms of COVID-19, based on CDC guidance that is not otherwise explained:

1. A fever of 100° F or greater;
2. Cough;
3. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
4. Chills;
5. Repeated shaking with chills;
6. Muscle pain;
7. Headache;
8. Sore throat;
9. New loss of taste or smell;
10. Fatigue;
11. Congestion or runny nose;
12. Nausea or vomiting;
13. Diarrhea.

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.

Adopted: September 6, 1988
 Revised: April 24, 2007
 NJSBA Review/Update: May 2016
 Readopted: December 20, 2016
 Revised: May 16, 2017
 Revised: September 15, 2020

Key Words

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

<u>Legal References:</u>	<p><u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-4.6 through -4.8</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4.3</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4.4</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4.5</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-5</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-6</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-11</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-16</p>	<p><u>Parents Right to Conscience Act of 1979</u></p> <p>Examination for physical defects and screening of hearing of students; health records</p> <p>Scoliosis; periodic examination; notice to parents or guardian</p> <p>Exemption</p> <p>Immunity from action of any kind due to provisions of act</p> <p>Method of examination; notice to parent or guardian</p> <p>In general</p> <p>Exclusion of students having communicable tuberculosis</p>
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HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS (continued)

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 students from mandatory immunizations
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:4-6	Prohibiting attendance of teachers or students
<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:16-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Programs to Support Student Development
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-1.3,	
-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
	Applicability
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.1	Proof of immunization
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.2	Medical exemptions
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.3	Religious exemptions
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.4	Provisional admission
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.5	Documents accepted as evidence of immunization
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.6	Records required
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.7	Reports to be sent to the State Department of Health
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.8	Records available for inspection
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.9	Diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.10	Poliovirus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.11	Measles virus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.12	Rubella vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.13	Mumps vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.14	Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib) conjugate vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.15	Hepatitis B virus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.16	Varicella virus vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.17	Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.18	Influenza vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.19	Meningococcal vaccine
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.20	Providing immunization
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.21	Emergency power of the Commissioner, Department of Health and Senior
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-4.22	Attendance at school by students or adults infected by Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV)
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:61-2.1	

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

Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, Pub.L. 114-95, 20 U.S.C.A. 6301 et seq.

The NJDOE Guidance: *The Road Back: Restart and Recovery* at:
<https://www.nj.gov/education/reopening/>

Possible

Cross References: *1410

Local units

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS (continued)

*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 students
*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

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.