

**File: JLCB**

## **IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS**

Students entering pre-school are required to present a physician's certificate of immunization documenting that the child has been successfully immunized in accordance with current Department of Public Health recommended schedules against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), hepatitis B, varicella and other communicable diseases.

Students before entering school for the first time, whether at kindergarten or through transfer from another school system, will be required to present a physician's certificate attesting to immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, poliomyelitis, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, chicken pox and such other communicable diseases as may be specified from time to time by the Department of Public Health. The only exception to these requirements will be made on receipt of a written statement from a doctor that immunization would not be in the best interests of the child, or by the student's parent or guardian stating that vaccination or immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs of the student or parent.

The McKinney-Vento Act requires schools to enroll homeless children and youths immediately, including unaccompanied children, regardless of citizenship status, even if they do not have records normally required for enrollment, such as medical and immunization records. However, the expectation is that upon enrollment, the child should be referred to begin the immunization catch-up schedule.

Legal Ref.: M.G.L. 76:15 Vaccination and Immunization  
105 CMR 220.000, McKinney-Vento Act 42 USC sec. 11301 et seq.

Cross Ref.: JF, School Admissions

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