



City of Chicago  
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Chicago Department of  
Family and Support Services

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**To:** Program/Site Directors  
School Age Programs

**From:** Madeline Cancel-Hanieh *MC*  
Director  
Children Services Division

**Date:** September 9, 2009

**Subject:** PROGRAM YEAR 2009-2010 HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR  
ATTENDANCE IN SCHOOL-AGE PROGRAMS, AGES 5 TO 12

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In an effort to ensure that all medical and dental services are provided in a timely manner, the Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS) requires that children who are in Kindergarten through sixth grade [ages 5 (before September 1)-12], and are enrolled in a DFSS School Age Program comply with the provisions of the IL Child Health Examination Code, the IL Licensing Requirements for Day Care Centers and IL Licensing Requirements for Day Care Homes.

All DFSS delegate agencies are required to implement these policies without exception, beginning immediately. Please distribute this information to staff and parents.

## I. MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

### **Physical Examination**

Prior to attendance, each child enrolled in a school age program must have a physical examination signed and dated by a licensed physician, an advance practice nurse or a physician assistant working in collaborative agreement with a physician.

The examination and screenings must be performed based on guidelines of the IL Daycare licensing standards, American Academy of Pediatrics and Illinois Department of Public Health, Section 665 of the Child Health Examination code. These examinations shall be conducted within one year prior to entering the program and at kindergarten/first grade and sixth grade. Students transferring into Illinois from out-of-state or out-of-country must have an examination regardless of grade level.

### **Health History**

The Health History section of the physical examination form must be completed and signed by the parent and reviewed by the signing health care provider

### **Immunization**

Immunizations for children entering school age programs are required by the IDPH Child Health Examination Code. All programs must follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), American Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP),

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Immunization Schedules for Children Aged 0-6 Years, Children Aged 7-18 Years or the Catch up Schedule for Children Aged 4 months to 18 Years.

The following immunizations are required for Kindergarten entry:

- 5 doses of DTaP
- 4 doses of IPV
- 2 doses of MMR
- 2 doses of Varicella
- 2 doses of Hep B
- The Hep A and Influenza vaccines are recommended.
- For the sixth grade, the Tdap vaccine is required.
- The HPV and meningococcal vaccines are recommended.

The health care provider must record the immunizations on the required Certificate of Child Health Examination form (school physical), approved by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).

## **II. Required Screenings**

### **Health Screenings**

The physical examination must include an evaluation of weight, height, blood pressure, BMI, skin, eyes, ears, nose, throat, mouth/dental, cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal, genitor-urinary, neurological, musculoskeletal, spinal examination, nutritional status, lead screening and other evaluations deemed necessary by the examiner. Other evaluations include hemoglobin or hematocrit. The examiner should list any medications the child takes routinely, diet restrictions/needs, special equipment needed, or other needs, and know allergies.

The health care provider should also identify any need for further evaluation or follow up.

### ***Vision and Hearing***

Vision and Hearing Screenings should be conducted by certified specialists and completed according to the process mandated by the IDPH regulations for vision and hearing screening. Visual acuity and strabismus screening is required for children entering K and 2nd grades.

Hearing screenings are required for children entering K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades. School age programs must obtain the screening according to the CPS schedule. Hearing screening services shall be provided annually for all school age children who are in grades K, 1, 2, and 3. These screening services are provided in all public, private, and parochial schools. Hearing screening is recommended in grades 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12.

### ***Lead***

Lead screening is a required part of the health examination for children through six years old prior to school entry (Lead Poisoning Prevention Act). Chicago is considered to be at high risk for lead poisoning; hence a lead screening and not a risk assessment is required.

### ***Tuberculosis (TB)***

A TB Pediatric & Adolescent Risk Assessment Questionnaire is required prior to the child's first day of attendance in the program. The risk assessment questionnaire must be administered by the child's health care provider. If the TB risk assessment is positive for a high-risk exposure to tuberculosis infection, the provider will administer a tuberculin skin test. The Mantoux screening method is required. Children should be re-assessed with the Questionnaire based on the physical examination schedule.

### **III. Dental Requirements**

Each child enrolled in kindergarten, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grades and in a DFSS school-aged program will be required to have a dental examination. The IDHS dental form is required and it must be signed and dated by a licensed dentist.

### **IV. Other Requirements**

#### **Diabetes Screening**

Public Act 93-0530 requires that a diabetes screening be completed as a required part of each health examination. Rules developed by IDPH require that each student, at the time of their physical examination be assessed for risk of having or developing Type 2 diabetes. Children who are overweight are identified to be at risk for diabetes. According to the American Diabetes Association (ADA), overweight is defined as BMI >85<sup>th</sup> percentile for age and sex.

Children found to be above the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile must be further assessed for the following risk factors:

- a) Family history of type 2 diabetes in first/second-degree relatives.
- b) Belonging to a certain race/ethnic groups including American Indians, African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian/South Pacific Islanders.
- c) Showing signs of insulin resistance or conditions associated with insulin resistance.

**Results of the diabetes risk assessment must be documented on the Certificate of Child Health Examination form.**

#### **Referral of Children to Providers**

If a child has not received the required health services, the program must refer the family to their medical home or provide them with the community based providers. The COPA system may be used to identify those children who are in need of services. It is recommended that parents be given a minimum of thirty (30) days notice of expiring health services so they have adequate time to secure necessary appointments.

#### **Follow-Up**

It is the responsibility of delegate agency staff to follow up on all children who do not have complete medical records or have been referred for treatment. Parents must be instructed to take to the doctor or dentist's office, their children's immunization records, the IDPH Certificate of Child Health Examination form, and IDPH dental forms, and their Medicaid or All Kids card if they are enrolled in Medicaid.

It is the department's goal to have all School Age children complete the required health services prior to their first date of attendance in the program. It is the responsibility of each delegate agency to ensure that they are in compliance with this policy.

**Record-Keeping**

The COPA system has been made available to all School Age Programs. It is the department's expectation that all children and family records are entered into COPA. This system should be used to produce reports, track, follow-up and plan for the services provided by school age programs.

Please contact your assigned Support Services Coordinator, at (312) 743-0300, if you have questions.

Thank you for your continued support.

DFSS:CSD:MCH:pm: 9/9/09

cc: Mary Ellen Caron  
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