

## HEALTH EXAM FACT SHEET

*The following requirements for students enrolled in any Illinois public, private, or parochial school are in effect. In addition to the following exam requirements, all students must meet the minimum requirements for immunizations as detailed in the Illinois School Code.*

### **Kindergarten**

#### ***Health Examination***

- For students beginning on the first day of school, exam is due no later than October 15
- For students enrolling after the first day of the school year, exam is due within 30 school days
- Physical must be conducted within one year prior to the first day of school

#### ***Vision Examination***

- Due no later than October 15
- Exam must be conducted within one year prior to entering kindergarten

#### ***Dental Examination***

- Due no later than May 15
- Exam must be conducted within 18 months prior to May 15 of the current school year

### **Second Grade**

#### ***Dental Examination***

- Due no later than May 15
- Exam must be conducted within 18 months prior to May 15 of the current school year

### **Sixth Grade**

#### ***Health Examination***

- For students beginning on the first day of school, exam is due no later than October 15
- For students enrolling after the first day of the school year, exam is due within 30 school days
- Physical must be conducted within one year prior to the first day of school

#### ***Dental Examination***

- Due no later than May 15
- Exam must be conducted within 18 months prior to May 15 of the current school year

### **Ninth Grade**

#### ***Health Examination***

- For students beginning on the first day of school, exam is due no later than October 15
- For students enrolling after the first day of the school year, exam is due within 30 school days
- Physical must be conducted within one year prior to the first day of school

#### ***Dental Examination***

- Due no later than May 15
- Exam must be conducted within 18 months prior to May 15 of the current school year

**Any student enrolling for the first time in an Illinois public, private, or parochial school must provide:**

- Proof of a health exam conducted within one year prior to entering school
- Proof of a vision exam conducted within one year prior to entering school
- Proof of a dental exam conducted within 18 months prior to May 15 of the current school year if enrolling in kindergarten, second, sixth, or ninth grades

**Sports Physicals**

- Are due before a student can participate in interscholastic athletic activities, including practices
- Must be obtained annually
- Are valid for 395 days

**Note:** School physicals, provided as required at sixth and ninth grade, can also satisfy the requirement for a sports physical for that year

**Please refer to the following sections for information regarding specific health examination requirements.**

**Vision Examination:**

Proof of a vision examination must be submitted to the school no later than **October 15**. Vision examinations are required to be performed by a licensed optometrist or a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches and who provides eye examinations. The examination must have taken place no longer ago than 12 months prior to the first day of the current school year.

This requirement may be waived for students who show an undue burden or a lack of access to a licensed optometrist or physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches who provides eye examinations.

- An Eye Examination Report form and an Eye Examination Waiver form have been created by Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and must be used to document compliance. These forms are available on the IDPH website and the District 7 website.
- Waivers for the vision examination requirements can be completed if:
  - Your student is enrolled in the free and reduced lunch program and is ineligible for public insurance (Medicaid/All Kids)
  - Your student is enrolled in Medicaid/All Kids, but you are unable to find a medical doctor who performs eye examinations or an optometrist in the community who is able to see the student and accepts Medicaid/All Kids
  - Your student does not have any type of medical or vision/eye care insurance coverage, and there are no low-cost vision/eye clinics in the community that will see your student

**Dental Examination:**

Proof of an oral health examination must be submitted to the school no later than May 15 of the school year.

- The examination must be performed by a licensed dentist and must have taken place within 18 months prior to May 15 of the school year.

- The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has created a Dental Examination form that must be presented as proof of this requirement. This form is available on IDPH's website (<http://www.idph.state.il.us/>) and the Edwardsville District 7 website ([www.ecusd7.org](http://www.ecusd7.org)).

Students who show an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist shall receive a waiver from the requirement for a dental examination. An undue burden or lack of access to a dentist includes but is not limited to the following circumstances:

- The student is enrolled in the free and reduced lunch program and is not covered by private or public (Medicaid/All Kids) dental insurance
- The student is enrolled in the free and reduced lunch program and is ineligible for public insurance (Medicaid/All Kids).
- The student is enrolled in Medicaid/All Kids, but the parent or guardian is unable to find a dentist or dental clinic in the community that is able to see the student and accepts Medicaid/All Kids.
- The student does not have any type of dental insurance, and there are no low-cost dental clinics in the community that will see the student.

#### **Health Examination:**

The Certificate of Health Examination form must be submitted to the school no later than **October 15**. Students are subject to exclusion if proof of a health examination and required vaccinations are not provided to the school district at this time.

- Health examinations shall be performed and the Certificate of Child Health Examination shall be signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, an advanced practice nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician that authorizes them to perform health examinations, or a physician assistant to whom the performance of health examinations by their supervising physician has been delegated.
- The Illinois physical exam form is available on the IDPH website and the District 7 website.

***Please note that school health examinations, including sports physicals, may be issued by one of the following:***

- Physicians licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches or
- Advanced practice nurses who have a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician that authorizes them to perform health examinations or
- Physician assistants who have been delegated the performance of health examinations by their supervising physician

#### **Religious Objections or Medical Exemptions to Health Examinations or Immunizations**

Per Public Act 099-0249, parents or legal guardians who object to health, dental, or vision examinations or immunizations, on religious grounds shall not be required to undergo the examinations or immunizations if the parents or legal guardians present to the appropriate local school authority a signed Certificate of Religious Exemption detailing the grounds for the objection and the specific immunizations and/or examinations to which they object. The grounds for objection must set forth the specific religious belief(s) that conflict with the examination, immunization, or other medical intervention. The certificate will be signed by the parent or legal guardian to confirm their awareness of the school's exclusion policies in case of a vaccine preventable disease outbreak or exposure. The certificate must also be signed by the

child's health care provider responsible for performing the child's examination for entry into kindergarten, sixth, or ninth grade. This signature affirms that the provider educated the parent or legal guardian about the benefits of immunization and health risks to the student and to the community from the communicable diseases for which immunization is required in Illinois.

If the physical condition of the student is such that any one or more of the immunizing agents should not be administered, the examining physician, advance practice nurse, or physician assistant responsible for the performance of the health examination shall endorse that fact upon the health examination form.

Exempting a student from the health, dental, or vision examination does not exempt the student from participation in physical education programs.

If you are having difficulty finding a physician who can complete your student's health examination and/or administer necessary immunizations, you may wish to consider contacting the Madison County Health Department at 692-8954, extension 2, to make an appointment.