

## IMMUNIZATIONS OF STUDENTS

Subject to the exemptions as provided by law, no student shall be enrolled unless the student can present satisfactory evidence of commencement and completion of immunization in accordance with the immunization schedule and rules and regulations of the Public Health Division, except that a homeless student shall not be prevented from attendance until the fifth (5th) calendar day after enrollment.

“Satisfactory evidence of commencement and completion of immunization” means satisfactory evidence of a person having begun the process of immunizations in a statement, certificate or record signed by a duly licensed physician, certified nurse practitioner, or other recognized public or private health facility stating that the person has received at least the first in the series of required immunizations and is proceeding with the immunizations according to the prescribed schedule. Persons enrolling in schools who have begun the process of immunization shall have one month following the date of enrollment to complete the required immunizations and submit satisfactory evidence of completing the required immunizations or having continued the process of the required series.

Any minor child, through his parent or guardian, may file a request for exemption from required immunization with the Director of the Public Health Division. The original request for approval of any exemptions from immunization must be mailed to the Department of Health, Public Health Division, Immunization Program. The address is PO Box 26110, Suite S-1250, Santa Fe, NM, 87502. Request forms can be found at the Immunization Program offices, 1190 St. Francis Drive, Suite South 1250, or on the program’s website.

The student is exempt from immunization pursuant to Section 6.12.2.8 NMAC upon filing with the governing authority:

- a statement or certificate signed by a licensed physician or certified nurse practitioner stating that the physical condition of the person seeking enrollment is such that immunization would seriously endanger the life or health of the person;
- an exemption granted by the public health division on the basis of:
  - notarized affidavits or written affirmation from an officer of a recognized religious denomination that such student's parents or guardians are bona fide members of a denomination whose religious teaching requires reliance upon prayer or spiritual means alone for healing; or
  - notarized affidavits or written affirmation from the student's parent or legal guardian that the student's religious beliefs, held either individually or jointly with others, do not permit the administration of vaccine or other immunizing agent.

~~➔ An original copy of an affidavit or written affirmation for either of the above exemption request shall be forwarded to the Director of Public Health Division by the Superintendent of Schools within seven (7) days of receipt.~~

Exemption from obtaining the required immunizations, when approved, is valid for a period not to exceed nine (9) months and will not extend beyond the end of the school year in which the student is currently enrolled.

Any student with serologic confirmation of the presence of specific antibodies against a vaccine-preventable disease shall not be subject to immunization against that disease as a condition for attending school.

The District will cooperate with Public Health Division in programs of immunization. Parents' permission must be secured before a student may participate in such immunization projects.

*Adopted: July 20, 2012*

*Amended: March 24, 2014*

LEGAL REF.: 24-5-3 NMSA                    7.4.3.8 NMAC  
                  6.12.2.8 NMAC                7.4.3.13 NMAC  
                  6.12.2.9 NMAC                7.5.3.8 NMAC  
                  6.12.2.10 NMAC

GADSDEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

07/20/12

**REGULATION****REGULATION****IMMUNIZATIONS OF STUDENTS**

Immunizations required as indicated below shall be administered in accordance with guidelines established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (ACIP) and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

- Diphtheria.
- Tetanus.
- Pertussis.
- Poliomyelitis.
- Rubeola (measles).
- Mumps.
- Rubella (German measles).
- Haemophilus influenzae b (Hib) (~~only~~ for facilities regulated by CYFD as described in 8.16.2 NMAC) ~~or other pre-school or school-age populations as determined by the Secretary of the Department of Health).~~
- Hepatitis B (~~for 7th grade entry~~) (~~effective 09-01-2000 for facilities regulated by New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) as described in 8.16.2 NMAC~~), ~~effective 09-01-2002 for school entry.~~
- Varicella (~~effective 09-1-2000 for facilities regulated by CYFD as described in 8.16.2 NMAC~~) (~~effective 09-01-2002 for school entry~~).
- Hepatitis A ~~in areas/counties targeted by the Office of Epidemiology of the Department. Targeted areas/counties will include any area/county whose three (3) year running average rate of hepatitis A is at or above twenty (20) cases per one hundred thousand (100,000) people per year or which has been determined by the Office of Epidemiology of the Department to have an elevated risk of hepatitis A (effective 09-01-2002 for school entry and for facilities regulated by CYFD as described in 8.16.2 NMAC). Targeted areas/counties will be reassessed and redefined annually by the Office of Epidemiology of the Department. For non-targeted areas/counties, routine vaccination of children two (2) years of age and older is recommended in conformance with the recommendations of the ACIP and the American Academy of Pediatrics.~~ (for facilities regulated by CYFD as described in NMAC 8.16.2 or other pre-school populations as determined by the Secretary of the Department of Health).
- Pneumococcal Disease

- Other vaccines for preventable diseases as determined by the Secretary of the Department of Health and within those recommended by the ACIP.

A child shall be non-compliant with these regulations if the child is eligible to receive and has not received any of the remaining required immunization doses within the recommended intervals between doses published by the ACIP.

No child shall be enrolled in a school in New Mexico unless satisfactory evidence of immunization requirements has been provided.

The admitting official shall deem the student to be in compliance with the requirements of this regulation if:

- A statement, certificate or record signed by a duly licensed physician or other recognized licensed health facility stating that the required immunizations have been given to the person is provided; or
- An exemption from immunization is submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in 6.12.2.9 NMAC.

Immunization records shall be kept current and available to the Public Health Division.

~~A completed Immunization Roster shall be filed annually with the Public Health Division. The Immunization Roster shall be filed on forms furnished by the Public Health Division.~~  
All schools and facilities under these regulations shall be required to participate in an annual immunizations records audit at the request of the Department.

All schools required to comply with these regulations shall notify the local Public Health Division District Health Officer if a child about to be enrolled or while enrolled has been held out of school for more than five (5) consecutive school days for noncompliance with these regulations.