

Policy Executive Summary

June 21, 2021

The following policy will be presented for a Second Reading.

Immunization of Students JLCB

Policy JLCB was last updated in March 2018 to reflect additional immunization requirements for students entering grades 7 and 12. The updates to this policy reflect changes to immunization requirements as a result of LD 798 which removes both philosophical and religious exemptions as exceptions to **Maine immunization requirements**. It's important to note that these changes take effect as of September 1, 2021.

Recommendation

To adopt Policy JLCB as presented.

Sanford School Department

NEPN/NSBA Code: JLCB

IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS

All students who enroll in ~~the school unit~~ Sanford schools are required by Maine law to present a certificate of immunization or evidence of immunization or immunity against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella and varicella (chicken pox). ~~Students entering 7th and 12th grade will also need to show proof of meningococcal vaccine MCV4.~~ **Maine law also requires immunization against meningococcal disease as follows:**

- A. **One dose of meningococcal vaccine MCV4 is required for students entering 7th grade.**
- B. **Students entering 12th grade are required to have received two doses of MCV4. The first dose shall have been received on or after the 11th birthday, and the second dose shall have been received on or after the 16th birthday, at least eight weeks after the first dose. Only one dose is required if the first dose is administered when the student is 16 years of age or older.**

Non-immunized students shall not be permitted to attend school unless one of the following conditions are met:

- A. The parent provides the school with written assurance that the child will be immunized by private effort within ninety days of enrolling (officially registering) in school or first attendance in school classes, whichever date is the earliest.
- B. The granting of this 90-day period is a one-time provision **during their school career**. A child transferring from one school to another within the state may not be granted a second 90-day period, however, a period of 21 calendar days may be granted to allow for the transfer of health records from one school to another; or
- C. The parents/guardian provides a physician's written statement each year **from a licensed physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant that, in his/her professional judgment,** ~~that~~ immunization against one or more diseases may be medically inadvisable (as defined by law/regulation); or
- ~~D. The parents/guardian state in writing each year that immunization is contrary to their sincere religious or philosophical beliefs.~~
- D. **If the student was covered by an IEP and elected a religious or philosophical exemption prior to September 1, 2021, he/she may continue to attend school under the existing exemption if the parent/guardian or the student (if 18 years of age or older) provides a**

statement from a licensed physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant that he/she has consulted with the parent/guardian or student and has made the parent/guardian or student aware of the risks and benefits associated with the choice to immunize; or

- E. The parents/guardians grant written consent for their child to be immunized by a public health officer, physician, nurse or other authorized person employed by or acting as an agent of the school unit.

The Superintendent shall exclude from school any non-immunized student when there is a clear danger to the health of others as provided by law.

The Superintendent/designee is directed to develop such administrative procedures as are necessary to carry out this policy and comply with statutory requirements.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA 6352-6359
Chapter 126 Me. Dept. of Ed. Rules (May 10, 2018)
Cross Reference: JLCC - Communicable/Infectious Diseases
JRA - Student Educational Records

Adopted: January 22, 2007
Revised: ~~First Reading February 25, 2019~~
~~Adopted March 18, 2019~~
First Reading Revised June 7, 2021