

Health Requirements to attend KY Schools

Immunization laws and regulations protect everyone; high immunization coverage levels greatly reduce the risk of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks. Kentucky has regulations requiring immunizations for children in child care and school. These same requirements also provide exemptions from these immunizations for both medical reasons and religious beliefs.

Preventative Health Care Examination Requirements:

****Preschool, Kindergarten, 6th grade, & New Students****

Kentucky Law, 702 KAR 1:160, A completed Preventative Health Care Examination form for Kentucky school children is required within two (2) months after the first day of attendance in a Kentucky School. The examination may be performed by a licensed physician, ARNP (nurse practitioner), physician assistant, or EPSDT provider from any state. This form must be submitted as proof of an examination that has been given no earlier than one (1) year prior to or sixty (60) days to the first day of attendance in a Kentucky School. This is different than a Sports Physical which cannot be accepted.

Eye Examinations ****Preschool & New Students****

Kentucky Law, KRS 156.160 (1)(i), Students entering school for the first time, ages three, four, five or six years old only, should have a Kentucky Vision Examination form on file at the school they are attending no later than January 1 of the first year that the child is enrolled in a private, public school, public preschool or Head Start. The examination must be completed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist.

Dental Examination ****Kindergarten & New Students****

Kentucky Law, KRS 156.160(i), requires proof of a dental screening or examination by a dentist, dental hygienist, physician, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant. This evidence shall be presented to the school no later than January 1 of the first year that a five (5) or six (6) year old is enrolled in public school.

Immunizations ****Preschool, Kindergarten & 6th Grade Students****

Kentucky Law, KRS 214.034, In accordance with the Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services, 902 KAR 2:060, Section 2, immunizations are required for attendance at day-care centers, certified family child-care homes, other licensed facilities that care for children, preschool programs, and school must have the Kentucky Immunization Certificate, EPID-230, on file **within two weeks of initial enrollment, or proof of an appointment**. The certificate must be signed by any duly licensed medical or osteopathic physician, nurse practitioner, or local health department provider; and must show dates all vaccines were administered. Certificates not meeting these requirements will be returned to the parent/guardian for correction from the Healthcare provider. Please note that immunization requirements changed as of July 1, 2011. Please refer to: <http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/epi/School+and+Childcare.htm> for specific information.

NOTE: Students transferring from Out of State to KY schools: Students regardless of age, or grade level, entering Kentucky schools must be current on all vaccinations. For example, if a student is transferring into 2nd grade from out of state, the student will be required to have all the vaccinations that were required when entering Kindergarten in the state of KY. Likewise, if entering 7th grade and beyond, the student will be required to be current on all vaccinations that were required when entering 6th grade in the state of KY. Additionally a KY Preventative Health Care Examination is also required.