



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

NICK LYON
DIRECTOR

August 15, 2018

Re: 2018 Immunization Requirements for Children Attending Michigan Preschool Programs or Licensed Childcare Centers

Dear Directors of Preschool Programs and Licensed Childcare Centers:

Immunizations are one of the most effective measures in protecting children from harmful diseases and death. The Michigan Public Health Code requires all children who attend preschool programs or licensed childcare centers in Michigan to have an up-to-date immunization history or a valid waiver on file per Administrative Rules and report their immunization status to their jurisdictional local health department. **A child who fails to meet these immunization requirements shall not be admitted into the program.**

It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to ensure that their child has received all required vaccine doses before entry into your program.

There are three circumstances in which a required vaccine may be waived or delayed:

1. The child has received at least one dose of required vaccine(s) and the next dose(s) are not yet due. These children are considered as "provisional" status. Childcare centers are required to follow-up with these children to ensure subsequent doses of vaccine are received and are complete for all required vaccines;
2. The child has a medical contraindication to a vaccine. In this case a *Medical Contraindication Form* **is required to be completed and signed by the child's medical physician.** The form shall state the medical contraindication(s), the vaccine(s) involved, and the time-period during which the child is precluded from receiving the vaccine(s);
3. A parent or guardian holds a religious or philosophical ("other") belief which preclude receipt of vaccination(s). These are nonmedical exemptions and require certification at the local health department.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) are required to receive education on the benefits of vaccination and the risks of disease before obtaining a signed certified *Nonmedical Waiver Form* from their local health department. Health professionals shall address concerns and/or questions, and then sign the current State of Michigan 2018 *Nonmedical Waiver Form*. Parents seeking a nonmedical exemption must contact the local health department to arrange for the educational session.

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To meet admission requirements, parents are responsible for bringing the original signed current 2018 *Nonmedical Waiver Form* to your childcare/preschool for entry into the Michigan Care Improvement Registry/Schools Immunization Reporting System (MCIR/SIRS).

Individual programs without internet access should contact the local health department for guidance when using the handwritten *IP-101 Reporting Form for Childcare Immunization Reporting*.

Proper maintenance of up-to-date immunization records are critical in the event of an outbreak of vaccine preventable disease, or if an audit is conducted by your local health department or the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Copies of the *Nonmedical Waiver and Medical Contraindication Forms* must be submitted no later than October 1, 2018, to the jurisdictional local health department.

A summary of requirements and supporting information is included in this packet and is also posted online at www.mcir.org under the School/Childcare section. Please review this important information to assist you with the completion of the immunization reporting of your attendees. Requests for additional informational materials should be directed to the local health department.

To obtain technical assistance or to enroll as a MCIR/SIRS user, please contact the local health department or the MCIR Help Desk at 1-888-243-6652.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in ensuring that Michigan's children are properly immunized to avoid the ongoing threat of communicability and illness associated with vaccine preventable diseases.

Sincerely,



Nick Lyon
Director

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Enclosures

c: Local Health Departments