

1 The Board of Education requires all students to meet the eligibility requirements for school
2 admission established by the State and the Board, including immunization and health
3 assessments. The principal or designee shall maintain on file immunization and health
4 assessment records for all students, and these records may be inspected by officials of the county
5 or state health departments. Each school principal shall file required reports with the Department
6 of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Instruction.

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8 **A. IMMUNIZATION**

9
10 **1. Requirements for Initial Entry**

11
12 Within 30 calendar days of his or her first day of attendance in the school system,
13 each student must show evidence of age-appropriate vaccination in accordance
14 with state law and regulation, including the following vaccines as applicable:

- 15
16 a. DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis);
17 b. Poliomyelitis (polio);
18 c. Measles (rubeola);
19 d. Rubella (German measles);
20 e. Mumps;
21 f. Haemophilus influenzae, type b (Hib);
22 g. Hepatitis B;
23 h. Varicella (chickenpox); and
24 i. Any other vaccine as may be required by law or regulation.

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26 The current required vaccination schedule is available from the N.C.
27 Immunization Branch online at <http://www.immunize.nc.gov/>.

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29 **2. Additional Requirements**

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31 All students entering seventh grade or who have reached age 12, whichever
32 comes first, are required to receive the following:

- 33
34 a. A booster dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis vaccine), if they
35 have not previously received it; and
36
37 b. The meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV).

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39 **3. Certificate of Immunization**

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41 a. Evidence of immunizations must be shown in the form of a certificate
42 furnished by a licensed physician or by the health department. A student
43 who received immunizations in a state other than North Carolina must

- 44 present an official certificate that meets the immunizations requirements
45 of G.S. 130A-154(b).
46
47 b. Principals are required to refuse admittance to any child whose parent or
48 guardian does not present a medical certification of proper immunizations
49 within the allotted time. If, following approved medical practice, the
50 administration of a vaccine requires more than 30 calendar days to
51 complete, upon certification of this fact by a physician, additional days
52 may be allowed in order to obtain the required immunizations.
53
54 c. Exceptions to the immunization requirements will be made only for
55 religious reasons or for medical reasons approved by a physician pursuant
56 to state law and regulation.
57

58 **B. HEALTH ASSESSMENT/VISION SCREENING**

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60 Within 30 calendar days of the first day of school entry, all kindergarten students must
61 furnish to the principal a document indicating that the student has received a health
62 assessment pursuant to G.S. 130A-440. The assessment must include a medical history
63 and physical examination with screening for vision and hearing and, if appropriate,
64 testing for anemia and tuberculosis. The health assessment must be conducted no more
65 than 12 months prior to the date of school entry. Exceptions to the health assessment
66 requirement will be made only for religious reasons.
67

68 Vision screening must comply with the vision screening standards adopted by the former
69 Governor’s Commission on Early Childhood Vision Care. Within 180 days of the start
70 of the school year, the parent of the child must present to the principal or designee
71 certification that within the past 12 months, the child has obtained a comprehensive eye
72 examination performed by an ophthalmologist or optometrist or has obtained a vision
73 screening conducted by a licensed physician, an optometrist, a physician assistant, a
74 nurse practitioner, a registered nurse, an orthoptist or a vision screener certified by
75 Prevent Blindness North Carolina. If a child enters the first grade without having been
76 enrolled in a kindergarten program requiring a vision screening, the screening is required
77 at that point.
78

79 Children who receive and fail to pass the required vision screening must obtain a
80 comprehensive eye exam conducted by a duly licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist.
81 The provider of the exam must present to the parent a signed transmittal form, which the
82 parent must submit to the school. If a member of the school staff has reason to believe
83 that a child enrolled in kindergarten through third grade is having problems with vision,
84 the staff member may recommend to the child’s parent that the child have a
85 comprehensive eye examination.
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**IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS
FOR SCHOOL ADMISSION**

Policy Code: **4110**

87 No child will be excluded from attending school for a parent’s failure to obtain a
88 comprehensive eye exam. If a parent fails or refuses to obtain a comprehensive eye exam
89 or to provide the certification of a comprehensive eye exam, school officials shall send a
90 written reminder to the parent of required eye exams.
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92 **C. HOMELESS STUDENTS**
93

94 Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, admissions for homeless students will not
95 be prohibited or delayed due to the student’s inability to provide documentation of
96 immunizations or health assessments. The homeless liaison shall work with the student,
97 parent/guardian, school personnel or other agencies to obtain documentation of
98 immunization and/or the health assessment or to arrange for such immunizations and/or
99 assessments in a timely manner.
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101 **D. CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES**
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103 The board acknowledges that immunization requirements for newly enrolling military
104 children are governed by the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military
105 Children. Children of military families, as defined in policy 4050, Children of Military
106 Families, will have 30 days from the date of enrollment or within such time as reasonably
107 determined by the rules of the Interstate Commission to obtain any required
108 immunization. For a series of immunizations, initial vaccinations must be obtained
109 within 30 days or within such time as is reasonably determined under the Interstate
110 Commission.
111

112 Legal References: McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431 *et seq.*; G.S.
113 115C-407.5; 130A-152 to -157, -440 to -443; 143B-216.75; 10A N.C.A.C. 41A .0401
114

115 Cross References: Children of Military Families (policy 4050), Homeless Students (policy
116 4125)
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118 Other References: N.C. Immunization Branch, available at <http://www.immunize.nc.gov/>
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120 **ADOPTED:**
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