

**IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH
REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ADMISSION**

Policy Code: **4110**

1 The Transylvania County Board of Education (the “board”) requires all students to meet the
2 eligibility requirements for school admission established by the State and the Board, including
3 immunization and health assessments. The principal or designee shall maintain on file
4 immunization and health assessment records for all students, and these records may be inspected
5 by officials of the county or state health departments in accordance with state and federal law.
6 Each school principal shall file required reports with the Department of Health and Human
7 Services and the Department of Public Instruction.
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9 **A. IMMUNIZATION**

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11 1. Requirements for Initial Entry
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13 Within 30 calendar days of his or her first day of attendance in the school system,
14 each student must show evidence of age-appropriate vaccination in accordance
15 with state law and regulation, including the following vaccines as applicable:
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- 17 a. DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis);
- 18 b. poliomyelitis (polio);
- 19 c. measles (rubeola);
- 20 d. rubella (German measles);
- 21 e. mumps;
- 22 f. Haemophilus influenzae, type b (Hib);
- 23 g. hepatitis B;
- 24 h. varicella (chickenpox);
- 25 i. pneumococcal conjugate (only for children entering school before age
26 five); and
- 27 j. any other vaccine as may be required by law or regulation.

28 The current required vaccination schedule is available from the N.C.
29 Immunization Branch online at <http://www.immunize.nc.gov/>.
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41 2. Additional Requirements

- 42 a. All students entering seventh grade or who have reached age 12,
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- 44 whichever comes first, are required to receive the following:
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- 46 i. a booster dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis vaccine),
- 47 if they have not previously received it; and
- 48
- 49 ii. the meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV).
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- 51 b. All students entering the twelfth grade or who have reached age 17 are
- 52 required to receive a booster dose of MCV.
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- 54 3. Certificate of Immunization
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- 56 a. Evidence of immunizations must be shown in the form of a certificate
- 57 furnished by a licensed physician or by the health department. A student
- 58 who received immunizations in a state other than North Carolina must
- 59 present an official certificate that meets the immunizations requirements
- 60 of G.S. 130A-154(b).
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- 62 b. Principals are required to refuse admittance to any child whose parent or
- 63 guardian does not present a medical certification of proper immunizations
- 64 within the allotted time. If, following approved medical practice, the
- 65 administration of a vaccine requires more than 30 calendar days to
- 66 complete, upon certification of this fact by a physician, additional days
- 67 may be allowed in order to obtain the required immunizations.
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- 69 c. Exceptions to the immunization requirements will be made only for
- 70 religious reasons or for medical reasons approved by a physician pursuant
- 71 to state law and regulation.
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73 **B. HEALTH ASSESSMENT/VISION SCREENING**

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75 Within 30 calendar days of the first day of school entry, all students entering public

76 school for the first time, regardless of grade level, must furnish to the principal a form

77 that meets the requirements of state law indicating that the student has received a health

78 assessment pursuant to G.S. 130A-440. A student who fails to meet this requirement will

79 not be permitted to attend school until the required health assessment form has been

80 presented. Such absences will not be considered suspensions, and the student will be

81 given an opportunity to make up work missed during the absence as described below.

82 The principal or designee shall, at the time of enrollment, notify the parent, guardian, or

83 person standing *in loco parentis* that the completed health assessment form is needed on

84 or before the child's first day of attendance. The date the student's health assessment

85 form is received will be recorded in the student's official record, and the form will be

86 maintained on file in the school.

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88 The assessment must include a medical history and physical examination with screening
89 for vision and hearing and, if appropriate, testing for anemia and tuberculosis. The health
90 assessment must be conducted no more than 12 months prior to the date of school entry.
91 Exceptions to the health assessment requirement will be made only for religious reasons.

92
93 ~~Vision screening must comply with the vision screening standards adopted by the former~~
94 ~~Governor’s Commission on Early Childhood Vision Care.~~—Within 180 days of the start
95 of the school year, the parent of the child must present to the principal or designee
96 certification that within the past 12 months, the child has obtained a comprehensive eye
97 examination performed by an ophthalmologist or optometrist or has obtained a vision
98 screening conducted by a licensed physician, an optometrist, a physician assistant, a
99 nurse practitioner, a registered nurse, an orthoptist or a vision screener certified by
100 Prevent Blindness North Carolina.

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102 Children who receive and fail to pass the required vision screening must obtain a
103 comprehensive eye exam conducted by a duly licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist.
104 The provider of the exam must present to the parent a signed transmittal form, which the
105 parent must submit to the school. If a member of the school staff has reason to believe
106 that a child enrolled in kindergarten through third grade is having problems with vision,
107 the staff member may recommend to the child’s parent that the child have a
108 comprehensive eye examination.

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110 No child will be excluded from attending school solely for a parent’s failure to obtain a
111 comprehensive eye exam. If a parent fails or refuses to obtain a comprehensive eye exam
112 or to provide the certification of a comprehensive eye exam, school officials shall send a
113 written reminder to the parent of required eye exams.

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115 Upon request, the teacher(s) of a student subject to an absence from school for failure to
116 provide the health assessment form required by this section shall provide to the student
117 all missed assignments, and to the extent practicable, the materials distributed to students
118 in connection with the assignments. The principal or designee shall arrange for the
119 student to take home textbooks and school-furnished digital devices for the duration of
120 the absence and shall permit the student to take any quarterly, semester, or grading period
121 examinations missed during the absence period.

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123 **C. HOMELESS STUDENTS**

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125 Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, admissions for homeless students will not
126 be prohibited or delayed due to the student’s inability to provide documentation of
127 immunizations or health assessments. The homeless liaison shall work with the student,
128 parent/guardian, school personnel or other agencies to obtain documentation of

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129 immunization and/or the health assessment or to arrange for such immunizations and/or
130 assessments in a timely manner.

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132 **D. FOSTER CHILDREN**

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134 Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, admissions for students in foster care will
135 not be prohibited or delayed due to the student’s inability to provide documentation of
136 immunizations or health assessments. The enrolling school will immediately contact the
137 school last attended by the foster child to obtain any relevant documentation.

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139 **E. CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES**

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141 The board acknowledges that immunization requirements for newly enrolling children of
142 military families are governed by the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for
143 Military Children (G.S. 115C-407.5) and G.S. 115C-407.12. Children of military
144 families, as defined in policy 4050, Children of Military Families, will have 30 days from
145 the date of enrollment to obtain any required immunization. For a series of
146 immunizations, initial vaccinations must be obtained within 30 days.

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148 Legal References: Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 6311(g)(1)(E);
149 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431 *et seq.*; G.S. 115C-390.2(1), -
150 407.5, -407.12; 130A-152 to -157, -440 to -443; 10A N.C.A.C. 41A .0401

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152 Cross References: Children of Military Families (policy 4050), Homeless Students (policy
153 4125), Attendance (policy 4400)

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155 Other Resources: N.C. Immunization Branch, available at <http://www.immunize.nc.gov/>

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157 Adopted: August 17, 2015

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159 Revised: November 19, 2015; November 21, 2016; September 21, 2020; July 18, 2022; April 3,
160 2023; [DATE]