

# 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.  
8

## 9 A. IMMUNIZATION

### 10 1. Requirements for Initial Entry

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

- 15 a. DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis);
- 16 b. poliomyelitis (polio);
- 17 c. measles (rubeola);
- 18 d. rubella (German measles);
- 19 e. mumps;
- 20 f. Haemophilus influenzae, type b (Hib);
- 21 g. hepatitis B;
- 22 h. varicella (chickenpox); and
- 23 i. any other vaccine as may be required by law or regulation.

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

### 26 2. Additional Requirements

- 27 a. All students entering seventh grade or who have reached age 12,  
28 whichever comes first, are required to receive the following:
  - 29 i. a booster dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis vaccine),  
30 if they have not previously received it; and
  - 31 ii. the meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV).
- 32 b. All students entering the twelfth grade or who have reached age 17 are  
33 required to receive a booster dose of MCV.

### 34 3. Certificate of Immunization

- 44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60  
61
- a. Evidence of immunizations must be shown in the form of a certificate furnished by a licensed physician or by the health department. A student who received immunizations in a state other than North Carolina must present an official certificate that meets the immunizations requirements of G.S. 130A-154(b).
  - b. Principals are required to refuse admittance to any child whose parent or guardian does not present a medical certification of proper immunizations within the allotted time. If, following approved medical practice, the administration of a vaccine requires more than 30 calendar days to complete, upon certification of this fact by a physician, additional days may be allowed in order to obtain the required immunizations.
  - c. Exceptions to the immunization requirements will be made only for religious reasons or for medical reasons approved by a physician pursuant to state law and regulation.

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

63  
64 Within 30 calendar days of the first day of school entry, all kindergarten students and,  
65 beginning with the 2016-17 school year, all students entering public school for the first  
66 time, regardless of grade level, must furnish to the principal a form that meets the  
67 requirements of state law indicating that the student has received a health assessment  
68 pursuant to G.S. 130A-440. A student who fails to meet this requirement will not be  
69 permitted to attend school until the required health assessment form has been presented.  
70 Such absences will not be considered suspensions, and the student will be given an  
71 opportunity to make up work missed during the absence as described below. The  
72 principal or designee shall, at the time of enrollment, notify the parent, guardian, or  
73 person standing *in loco parentis* that the completed health assessment form is needed on  
74 or before the child's first day of attendance. The date the student's health assessment  
75 form is received will be recorded in the student's official record, and the form will be  
76 maintained on file in the school.

77  
78 The assessment must include a medical history and physical examination with screening  
79 for vision and hearing and, if appropriate, testing for anemia and tuberculosis. The health  
80 assessment must be conducted no more than 12 months prior to the date of school entry.  
81 Exceptions to the health assessment requirement will be made only for religious reasons.

82  
83 Vision screening must comply with the vision screening standards adopted by the former  
84 Governor's Commission on Early Childhood Vision Care. Within 180 days of the start  
85 of the school year, the parent of the child must present to the principal or designee  
86 certification that within the past 12 months, the child has obtained a comprehensive eye

**IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS  
FOR SCHOOL ADMISSION**

*Policy Code:* **4110**

87 examination performed by an ophthalmologist or optometrist or has obtained a vision  
88 screening conducted by a licensed physician, an optometrist, a physician assistant, a  
89 nurse practitioner, a registered nurse, an orthoptist or a vision screener certified by  
90 Prevent Blindness North Carolina.

91  
92 Children who receive and fail to pass the required vision screening must obtain a  
93 comprehensive eye exam conducted by a duly licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist.  
94 The provider of the exam must present to the parent a signed transmittal form, which the  
95 parent must submit to the school. If a member of the school staff has reason to believe  
96 that a child enrolled in kindergarten through third grade is having problems with vision,  
97 the staff member may recommend to the child’s parent that the child have a  
98 comprehensive eye examination.  
99

100 No child will be excluded from attending school solely for a parent’s failure to obtain a  
101 comprehensive eye exam. If a parent fails or refuses to obtain a comprehensive eye exam  
102 or to provide the certification of a comprehensive eye exam, school officials shall send a  
103 written reminder to the parent of required eye exams.  
104

105 Upon request, the teacher(s) of a student subject to an absence from school for failure to  
106 provide the health assessment form required by this section shall provide to the student  
107 all missed assignments, and to the extent practicable, the materials distributed to students  
108 in connection with the assignments. The principal or designee shall arrange for the  
109 student to take home textbooks and school-furnished digital devices for the duration of  
110 the absence and shall permit the student to take any quarterly, semester, or grading period  
111 examinations missed during the absence period.  
112

113 **C. HOMELESS STUDENTS**

114  
115 Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, admissions for homeless students will not  
116 be prohibited or delayed due to the student’s inability to provide documentation of  
117 immunizations or health assessments. The homeless liaison shall work with the student,  
118 parent/guardian, school personnel or other agencies to obtain documentation of  
119 immunization and/or the health assessment or to arrange for such immunizations and/or  
120 assessments in a timely manner.  
121

122 **D. FOSTER CHILDREN**

123  
124 Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, admissions for students in foster care will  
125 not be prohibited or delayed due to the student’s inability to provide documentation of  
126 immunizations or health assessments. The enrolling school will immediately contact the  
127 school last attended by the foster child to obtain any relevant documentation.  
128

129 **E. CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES**

**IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS  
FOR SCHOOL ADMISSION**

Policy Code: **4110**

---

130  
131 The board acknowledges that immunization requirements for newly enrolling military  
132 children are governed by the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military  
133 Children. Children of military families, as defined in policy 4050, Children of Military  
134 Families, will have 30 days from the date of enrollment or within such time as reasonably  
135 determined by the rules of the Interstate Commission to obtain any required  
136 immunization. For a series of immunizations, initial vaccinations must be obtained  
137 within 30 days or within such time as is reasonably determined under the Interstate  
138 Commission.

139  
140 Legal References: Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 6311(g)(1)(E);  
141 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11431 *et seq.*; G.S. 115C-390.2(1), -  
142 407.5; 130A-152 to -157, -440 to -443; 143B-216.75; 10A N.C.A.C. 41A .0401

143  
144 Cross References: Children of Military Families (policy 4050), Homeless Students (policy  
145 4125), Attendance (policy 4400)

146  
147 Other ReferencesResources: N.C. Immunization Branch, available at  
148 <http://www.immunize.nc.gov/>

149  
150 Adopted: August 17, 2015

151  
152 Revised: November 19, 2015; November 21, 2016; [DATE]