

**IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH  
REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ADMISSION**

*Policy Code:*     **4110**

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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 **five**  
26 **5**); 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
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- 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.  
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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 ~~military~~  
142 children **of military families** are governed by the Interstate Compact on Educational  
143 Opportunity for Military Children (**G.S. 115C-407.5**) and **G.S. 115C-407.12**. Children of  
144 military families, as defined in policy 4050, Children of Military Families, will have 30  
145 days from the date of enrollment ~~or within such time as reasonably determined by the~~  
146 ~~rules of the Interstate Commission~~ to obtain any required immunization. For a series of  
147 immunizations, initial vaccinations must be obtained within 30 days ~~or within such time~~  
148 ~~as is reasonably determined under the Interstate Commission.~~

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

153  
154 Cross References: Children of Military Families (policy 4050), Homeless Students (policy  
155 4125), Attendance (policy 4400)

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

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159 Adopted: August 17, 2015

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161 Revised: November 19, 2015; November 21, 2016; September 21, 2020; July 18, 2022; **[DATE]**