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| <u>Section J:</u><br><br><b>Students</b> | <b>Knox County Board of Education</b>              |  |                          |                          |
|  | Descriptor Term:                                   |  | Descriptor Code:         |                          |
|  | <b>Physical Examinations and<br/>Immunizations</b> |  | <b>J-351</b>             | Issued:<br><b>7/95</b>   |
|  |  |  | Reviewed:<br><b>9/17</b> | Revised:<br><b>11/17</b> |

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**PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS**

The principal shall ensure that there is a complete physical examination of each student.

**KINDERGARTEN REQUIREMENT**

Proof of a physical examination completed by a medical provider and dated within 12 months prior to the first day of school. The form to be completed is the Tennessee School Immunization Certificate which may be obtained from a health care provider or Health Department. A student may be enrolled without this information, but must file it with the school within 30 calendar days or risk dismissal.

**FIRST - TWELFTH GRADE REQUIREMENT**

Written proof of a medical examination completed by a medical provider. This includes proof brought in person or provided in records from the previous school. A student may be enrolled in school without this information but must file it with the school within 30 calendar days or risk dismissal.

Physical examinations contained in records from students transferring from other school systems may be accepted if stated guidelines are met.

Cost of the examination shall be borne by parent or guardian of the student. All physical and immunization records shall be kept on file in the student's cumulative record.

**IMMUNIZATIONS**

Students entering school, including those entering pre-school, kindergarten or those students from out-of-state and nonpublic schools, will not be permitted to enroll (or attend) without proof of immunization, as determined by the Commissioner of Public Health.<sup>1</sup> It is the responsibility of the parents or guardians to have their children immunized and to provide such proof to the school which the student is to attend.<sup>2</sup>

Exceptions, in the absence of an epidemic or immediate threat thereof, shall be granted to any child whose parent or guardian shall file with school authorities a signed Refusal Due to Personal Religious Beliefs document; or due to medical reasons if such child has a written statement from a medical provider excusing him/her from such immunizations.<sup>3</sup> Proof of exceptions shall be in writing and filed in the same manner as other immunization records.

An immunization certificate containing documentation of other required health information (physical examination, vision/hearing screening) must be provided in addition to the religious exemption form or the written statement due to medical reasons from a medical provider.

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A list of transfer students shall be kept at each school throughout the school year in order that their records can be monitored by school nurses or the Department of Health.

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Legal References:

- 1. T.C.A. § 49-6-5001(a)(c) (1); TRR/MS § 0520-1-3-.08(2)(a).
- 2. TRR/MS § 0520-1-3-.08(2)(a).
- 3. T.C.A. § 49-6-5001(b)(2); T.C.A. § 49-6-5001(c)(2).

Approved as to Legal Form 9/29/2017  
By Knox County Law Director  
*/Gary T. Dupler/Deputy Law Director*