

<b>TENNESSEE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION</b>		
<b>PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS</b>		<b>6203</b>
<b>ADOPTED:</b> <b>April 9, 2021</b>	<b>REVISED:</b>	<b>MONITORING:</b> <b>Review: Annually</b>

It is the responsibility of each authorized charter school to ensure that there is proof of a complete physical examination prior to (a) each student entering school for the first time<sup>1</sup> and (b) each student participating as a member of an interscholastic athletic team or in any other strenuous physical activity program.<sup>2</sup>

It is the responsibility of the school to ensure that no students are permitted to enroll or attend without proof of immunization.<sup>1,3</sup> Students may be granted an exemption from immunization requirements if a qualified physician certifies that administration of immunizations would be in any manner harmful to the child.<sup>4</sup> Students may also be granted an exemption from immunization requirements if a parent/guardian files with proper authorities a signed, written statement affirmed under penalties of perjury that such immunization and preventive measures conflict with the religious tenets and practices of the parent/guardian.<sup>5</sup> No student determined to be homeless shall be denied admission to school if the student has not yet been immunized or is unable to produce immunization records due to being homeless. The authorized charter school shall comply with all federal laws pertaining to the educational rights of homeless children and shall assist the parent/guardian in obtaining the proper immunizations for the child.<sup>6</sup>

The school shall provide parents/guardians with information about influenza and meningococcal disease and the effectiveness of vaccination against influenza and meningococcal disease at the beginning of every school year. This information shall include the causes, symptoms, and the means by which influenza and meningococcal disease are spread and the places where parents/guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children. Neither a school nor its governing board is required to provide or purchase vaccines against influenza or meningococcal disease.<sup>7</sup>

The school shall adopt policies in accordance with state law detailing the requirements above and necessary guidelines for recordkeeping. Costs associated with examinations and/or immunizations are the responsibility of the parents/guardians of a student.<sup>3</sup>

Legal References:

- <sup>1</sup> TRR/MS 0520-01-03-.08(2)(a)
- <sup>2</sup> TRR/MS 0520-01-03-.08(2)(b)
- <sup>3</sup> T.C.A. § 49-6-5001
- <sup>4</sup> T.C.A. § 49-6-5001(c)(2)
- <sup>5</sup> T.C.A. § 49-6-5001(b)(2)
- <sup>6</sup> T.C.A. § 49-6-5001(c)(3)
- <sup>7</sup> 49-6-5005
- T.C.A. § 49-13-111(c)

Cross References

- LEA Policy 1801 Special Education
- LEA Policy 1802 ADA and Section 504