



Department of Health

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Date: January 8, 2020

To: Schools and Local Health Departments

From: New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), Bureau of Immunization

INFORMATIONAL MESSAGE: 2019 School Immunization Final Rule

Please distribute to: Principal or person in charge of the school, School Nurse, Immunization Action Plan Coordinator, and all staff participating in school immunization record review and vaccine administration.

SUMMARY

On December 31, 2019, permanent amendments (“final rule”) to New York Codes, Rules and Regulations Title 10, Subpart 66-1 (School Immunization Requirements) were published in the State Register and became effective immediately upon publication. The final rule reflects emergency regulations published on August 16, 2019 and renewed on November 14, 2019. In addition, four technical amendments were made to the final rule in response to feedback received during the public comment period:

- Acceptable serologic tests for poliomyelitis immunity were clarified to “positive serologic tests, as defined in subdivision (h) of this section, for all three serotypes of poliomyelitis, performed prior to September 1, 2019.”
- The definition of “in process” with regards to serologic testing was clarified to “a child has had blood drawn for a serologic test and is awaiting test results within 14 days after the blood draw.”
- Timing of exclusion of students no longer “in process” was clarified to “must be excluded from school within 14 days after the minimum interval identified by the ACIP catch-up schedule”, consistent with NYSDOH guidance issued on October 4, 2019.
- The reference located in subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (4) of subdivision (c) of section 66-1.2 was corrected to “subdivision (l) of section 66-1.1 of this Subpart.”

The final rule is available online at: <https://regs.health.ny.gov/volume-1a-title-10/content/subpart-66-1-school-immunization-requirements> and the full regulatory package, including Assessment of Public Comments, is available at https://regs.health.ny.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/recently_adopted_regulations/School%20Immunization%20Requirements_0.pdf.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- NYSDOH Child Care Programs, Schools and Post-Secondary Institutions web page: <https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/schools/>
- School Vaccination Requirements – Information for Parents: https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/schools/school_vaccines/
- For additional questions about NYS school immunization requirements, please contact the NYSDOH Bureau of Immunization, School Assessment Unit at (518) 474-1944 or email osas@health.ny.gov.