



RENEE L. RIDER, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
OFFICE OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
89 Washington Avenue, Room 319-M EB
Phone: (518) 474-4817; Fax: (518) 474-7758
E-mail: rider@nysed.gov; Web: www.p12.nysed.gov

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To: District Superintendents
Superintendents of Public Schools
Administrators of Nonpublic and Charter Schools
School Health Personnel

From: Renee L. Rider 

Subject: Immunization Regulation Revisions

The Education Department is writing to inform you that the Department of Health has revised the regulations regarding immunization requirements for school attendance effective July 1, 2015. The new dosing requirements continue to be based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

The Department's *Immunization Guidelines for Schools* have been revised to reflect these changes. We would like to take this opportunity to highlight changes below:

- Students entering K, 1st-6th, and 7th grades in the **2015-16** school year will now be required to have 2 doses of the varicella (chicken pox) vaccine and 3-4 doses of poliomyelitis vaccine. All other students will be able to attend school this year with 1 dose of varicella, and 3 doses of poliomyelitis.
- Students will now need 2 doses of measles, and mumps, and 1 dose of rubella vaccine in K through 12th grade. Students will no longer be able to wait until age 7 to meet this requirement.
- Students entering 8th through 12th grade (or comparable age level grade equivalents) in the **2015-16** school year shall be deemed in compliance with the immunization requirements until the last grade of this cohort graduate from school in 2020, if they had satisfied the immunization requirements in effect in regulation on June 30, 2014. This cohort does not need the immunization intervals assessed. Please see the following link to the chart specifying the immunization requirements that were in effect June 30, 2014:
<http://www.schoolhealthservicesny.com/files/filesystem/NYSImmunizationRequirementsForSchool%202013%2014Rev%202-13dk1.pdf>
- A certificate of immunization issued from the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS), the Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR), an official immunization registry from another state, an electronic health record, or

an official record from a foreign nation may now be accepted without a health provider's signature.

More detailed information on immunization requirements can be obtained on the Department of Health's Immunization page at:

<http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/schools/>

Contact information for local regional offices of the Department of Health's Immunization Program is available at:

http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/handbook/section_9_appendices/appendix_1_regional_field_offices.htm

Please share this information with all the school district's school health services personnel. If you have questions, please call our Office of Student Support Services at 518-486-6090.