



Harambee Institute of Science & Technology Charter School

Subject	Students
Title	Immunizations and Communicable Diseases
Date Issued	
Policy Number	
Date Revised	May 27, 2020

Authority

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases, the Board requires that established policy and guidelines be followed. [1][2]

Guidelines

Immunization

All students shall be immunized against certain diseases in accordance with Pennsylvania statutes, unless specifically exempt for religious or medical reasons.

A certificate of immunization shall be maintained as part of the health record for each student, as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. [3]

A student who has not been immunized in accordance with state and municipal law and regulations shall not be admitted to or permitted to attend schools or programs, unless exempted for medical or religious reasons or provisionally admitted by the CEO or designee. [1][2][3][4][5]

A student shall be exempt from immunization requirements whose parent/guardian objects in writing to such immunization on religious grounds or whose physician certifies that the student's physical condition contraindicates immunization. [1][4][5][6]

Monitoring of immunization requirements shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent or designee and the building principal. [1]

The CEO or designee shall:

1. Annually or whenever necessary review state and municipal standards for immunization and direct the responsible school personnel accordingly.
2. Ensure that parents/guardians are informed prior to a student's entry to school of the requirements for immunization, the requisite proof of immunization, exemption available for religious or medical reasons, and means by which such exemptions may be claimed. [1][3][4][6]

3. Investigate and recommend to the Board school-sponsored programs of immunization that may be warranted to safeguard the health of the school community. Such program shall be subject to Board approval and may be conducted in cooperation with local health agencies.

4. Report immunization data on the required form to the Pennsylvania Department of Health by October 15 of each year. [7]

Communicable Diseases

The Board authorizes that students who have been diagnosed by a physician or are suspected of having a disease by School Health Services shall be excluded from school for the period indicated by regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Philadelphia Department of Public Health for certain specified diseases and infectious conditions. [8][9]

School Health Services shall report the presence of suspected communicable diseases to the appropriate local health authority, as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Philadelphia Department of Public Health. [10][11][12]

The CEO or designee shall direct that health guidelines and universal precautions designed to minimize the transmission of communicable diseases be implemented in Harambee Institute of Science and Technology Charter School.

Instruction regarding prevention of communicable and life-threatening diseases shall be provided by the schools in the educational program for all levels, in accordance with state regulations. [13]

Parents/Guardians shall be informed of and be provided opportunities during school hours to review all curriculum materials used in instruction relative to communicable and life-threatening diseases. [14][15]

Health Records

A comprehensive health record shall be maintained for each student enrolled in the school. The record shall include the results of required tests, measurements, screenings, regular and special examinations, and medical questionnaires. [15]

All health records shall be confidential, and their contents shall be divulged only when necessary for the health of the student or to a physician at the written request of the parent/guardian. [16]



Legal References:

1. 24 P.S. 1303a
 2. 28 PA Code 23.81 et seq
 3. 28 PA Code 23.85
 4. 28 PA Code 23.83
 5. 22 PA Code 11.20
 6. 28 PA Code 23.84
 7. 28 PA Code 23.86
 8. 28 PA Code 27.71
 9. 28 PA Code 27.72
 10. 28 PA Code 27.1
 11. 28 PA Code 27.2
 12. 28 PA Code 27.23
 13. 22 PA Code 4.29
 14. 22 PA Code 4.4
 15. 24 P.S. 1402
 16. 24 P.S. 1409
 - 55 PA Code 3270.131
 - 55 PA Code 3270.136
 - 55 PA Code 3270.137
- Philadelphia Code of Ordinances - Title 6, Sections 6-204, 6-210
- Philadelphia Department of Public Health Guidance - Immunization Requirements for School Entry

