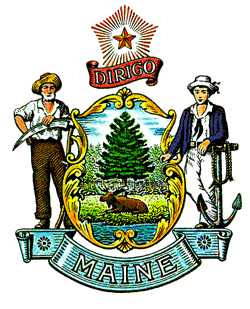
**STATE OF MAINE**

**IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

**FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN**



**05-071 CODE OF MAINE RULES**

**CHAPTER 126**

**Department of Education**

**and**

**10-144 CODE OF MAINE RULES**

**CHAPTER 261**

**Department of Health and Human Services**

**Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention**

**Last Amended: May 10, 2018**

**05-071 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (COMMISSIONER)**

**Chapter 126: IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN**

**A joint rule with**

**10-144 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**MAINE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

**Chapter 261: IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN**

**SUMMARY:** This rule is issued jointly by the Commissioner of Education and the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, to implement the provisions of the School Immunization Law (20-A M.R.S. §§ 6352-6359). It prescribes the dosage for required immunizations and defines record-keeping and reporting requirements for school officials.

**NOTICE**

The Maine Legislature has designated proposed changes relating to diseases for which immunization is required to be major substantive, per 20-A M.R.S. §6358(1). These changes add meningococcal meningitis to the diseases for which immunization is required, and are therefore major substantive.

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**SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS**

The definitions in this rule are those adopted in the School Immunization Law and include the following:

**Certificate of Immunization** means a written statement from a physician, nurse or public health official who has administered an immunizing agent to a child, specifying that the required dosage was administered and the month, day and year in which it was administered.

**Children Entering School / School Enterers** means any child who enters a school for the first time via kindergarten enrollment, transfers from one school to another, or otherwise enrolls in a school for the first time.

**Disease** means diphtheria, varicella (chickenpox), measles, mumps, pertussis, poliomyelitis, rubella, meningococcal meningitis and tetanus.

**Immunizing agent** means a vaccine, toxoid or other substance used to increase an individual’s immunity to disease.

**Parent** means a child’s parent, legal guardian, or custodian. A person shall be regarded as a child’s custodian if that person is an adult and has assumed legal charge and care of the child.

**Public health official** means the Director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, or any designated employee or agent of the Department of Health and Human Services.

**School** means any public and private elementary and secondary and special education facility which operates for children of compulsory school age.

**Student Health Record** means documentation of health information and school nursing services provided to individual students including, but not limited to, immunizations, health screening, health assessment, and nursing care plans as needed.

**Superintendent** means the superintendent of a school administrative unit or his designee, or the chief administrative officer of a private school.

**SECTION 2. IMMUNIZATION REQUIRED**

1. **Parental Responsibility**

Except as otherwise prohibited by law, every parent shall cause to be administered to his child the required dosage of an immunizing agent against each disease.

1. **Superintendents’ Responsibility**

No superintendent may permit any student to be enrolled in or to attend school without a certificate of immunization for each disease or other acceptable evidence of required immunization or immunity against each disease.

**SECTION 3. EXCEPTIONS**

1. **Enrollment Without Immunization Information**

A child who does not meet the immunization/immunity requirement may be enrolled in school under the following circumstances: