



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ELIZABETH HERTEL
DIRECTOR

September 28, 2023

Re: 2023 Immunization Requirements for Children Attending Michigan Preschool Programs in Licensed Childcare Centers

Dear Directors of Preschool Programs and Licensed Childcare Centers:

Please share this important immunization information with all staff that will be working with immunizations at your facility.

Immunizations are one of the most effective and scientifically proven measures to protect children from harmful diseases and death. The Michigan Public Health Code requires all children who attend preschool programs or licensed childcare centers in Michigan to have a valid, up to date immunization record, or a physician (MD/DO) signed State of Michigan Medical Contraindication Form, or a current, certified State of Michigan Nonmedical Immunization Waiver per the Administrative Rules. Preschool programs and licensed childcare centers are required to report their facilities immunization status to their local health department (LHD).

Any child who fails to submit the required immunization information shall not be admitted into the program.

For a child to attend a preschool program or licensed childcare center in Michigan, the Michigan Public Health Code requires parent(s)/legal guardian(s) to have one of the following on file with the childcare center:

1. A valid, up to date immunization record.
[Note: *Provisional Status Vaccines*. In the event the child has received at least one dose of a required vaccine and the next dose is not yet due, the childcare is required to follow-up with the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) to ensure the child has received the required follow-up dose(s) of the vaccine and is up to date for all other required vaccines].
2. A medical doctor's (MD/DO) signed State of Michigan 2023 Medical Contraindication Form, which states the medical contraindication(s), the vaccines involved, and the time during which the child is not able to get the vaccines.
3. A current, certified State of Michigan 2023 Nonmedical Immunization Waiver is required under Michigan Administrative Rules.

[Note: When a parent or legal guardian holds a religious or other objection that prevents a child from receiving vaccines, a 2023 Nonmedical Immunization Waiver is required to be completed, signed, and certified at the LHD. The LHD will provide education from a health professional on the risks of vaccine-preventable diseases and the benefits/potential risks (risks consisting mostly of moderate side effects) of vaccination. Health professionals will address questions and concerns prior to signing the current State of Michigan 2023 Nonmedical Immunization Waiver].

To meet admission requirements, it is the responsibility of the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) to bring a valid, up to date immunization record, or obtain a current Nonmedical Immunization Waiver (waiver may be completed in MCIR or if a parent/guardian request to not have it entered into MCIR a paper copy may be provided), **or** bring an original, signed Medical Contraindication Form to the preschool or childcare center prior to admission for entry into the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR), under the School Immunization Reporting System (SIRS). If a waiver is completed in MCIR a copy is not needed by the childcare. The waiver may be reviewed in MCIR.

Preschool programs and licensed childcare centers must report immunization status to the LHD for all children enrolled, by October 1 of each year, using the method established through the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR) in accordance with MCL 333.9211(s), R400.8143 Children's Records and Licensing Rules for Childcare Centers.

Individual programs without internet access should contact their LHD for immunization reporting guidance when using the "Childcare Aggregate Reporting Form". Copies of nondigital Nonmedical Waivers and Medical Contraindication Forms must be submitted no later than October 1, 2023, to the LHD.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) or your LHD may conduct an audit in the event of an outbreak and/or non-compliance. Proper maintenance of up to date immunization records, including waivers, is critical and required to be on file for all children.

A summary of requirements and supporting information is included in this packet and is also posted online at www.mcir.org, under "School & Childcare", "Reporting to the Health Department". Please review this important information to assist you with the completion of the immunization reporting requirements. Requests for additional information and materials should be directed to your LHD.

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To obtain technical assistance, or to enroll as a MCIR/SIRS user, please contact your LHD or the MCIR Helpdesk at 1-888-243-6652.

Thank you for your continued support and assistance in ensuring Michigan's children are properly immunized to avoid the ongoing threat of illness associated with vaccine-preventable diseases.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Hertel
Director

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Enclosures

c. Michigan Local Health Departments