

Romeoville Christian Academy

School Health Policies

HEALTH FILE REQUIREMENTS

- A **copy of the birth certificate** and all required **health records** are to be submitted to the school office prior to the first day of school.
- State law requires documentation of health physicals and immunization records per the information below.
- Section 27-8.1 of the Illinois School Code states: "If a child does not comply...then the local school authority shall exclude that child from school until such time as the child presents proof of having had either the health examination or those required immunizations which are medically possible to receive immediately."

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS

Illinois law requires that all students entering an **PRESCHOOL, KINDERGARTEN, 6TH GRADE** or **9TH GRADE**, or transferring from out of state have a physical examination within one calendar year PRIOR to the date of entry. The examination must include a complete immunization record and medical history. Students transferring from another Illinois school must present copies of their current Illinois school health records. Students entering school for the first time (eg., previously home schooled) must have a physical examination within one calendar year PRIOR to the date of entry.

In the event of one diagnosed case of a communicable disease such as measles or polio, any student who is not protected by immunization shall be immediately excluded from school. This exclusion shall be in effect for 21 days following the last reported case or until the student can show proof of immunity.

IMMUNIZATIONS

DTP/DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis): 5 doses - a series of three plus two boosters (2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 15-18 months, 4-6 years) The last booster must be given after the fourth birthday. An additional booster (Td) is required ten years after the last booster.

OPV/IPV (Polio): 4 doses – a series of two plus two boosters (2 months, 4 months, 6-18 months, 4-6 years). The last booster must be given after the fourth birthday.

MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella): 2 doses (12-15 months, 4-6 years)

Measles – Required unless physician documentation or laboratory evidence verifies that the student has had the disease. The student must have received two doses of live measles vaccine, the first dose after the first birthday and the booster dose at least one month later.

Mumps – Required unless laboratory evidence proves that the child has had the disease. The vaccine must have been given after the first birthday.

Rubella – Required unless laboratory evidence proves that the child has had the disease. The vaccine must have been given after the first birthday.

Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b): 4 doses (2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 12-15 months) Given according to a variety of schedules, depending on the manufacturer, minimal dose required is one after 15 months of age.

Hepatitis B: 3 doses – a series of two plus one booster (birth, 1-2 months, 6-18 months)

Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis): 1 dose – Any child entering **6th GRADE** shall show proof vaccine regardless of the interval since the last DTaP, DT or Td dose. Students entering **7th THROUGH 12th GRADES** who have not already received Tdap are required to receive 1 Tdap dose regardless of the interval since the last DTaP, DT or Td dose. If they have already received Tdap, they must provide proof to the school prior to entrance.

Varicella (Chicken Pox) – The vaccine must have been given after the first birthday or must provide physician documentation or laboratory evidence verifying that the student has had the disease.

SPORTS EXAMINATIONS

The sports exam must have been performed within one year of the start of the specific sport. The student will not be allowed to participate in the sport without the current exam on file with the school office. Any student not meeting these physical examination and immunization requirements may not be allowed to attend class.

PARENT WISDOM

If your child has a fever, cold, upset stomach, or any undue physical distress, please keep him or her home. This is as much for your child's protection as it is for the protection of the other children at school. Working parents, please check your child before going to work. It is your responsibility when he or she is not feeling well, and not the responsibility of the school. The school office requires instructions for whom to contact if you cannot be reached. If an accident or illness occurs, first aid will be administered. School personnel may give no care beyond first aid, defined as immediate, temporary care of accident or sudden illness.

IMMUNIZATION EXEMPTIONS

Medical Exemptions

The law allows physicians to write a statement if he believes a vaccine would be harmful to the health of a child. These statements must be dated and signed by the medical doctor and renewed annually unless the physician writes that it is a lifelong condition. For children needing medical exemptions, the physician's statement must be submitted to the school by the parent prior to the first day of school.

Exemption for Reasons of Conscience

Exemptions for reasons of conscience, including religious beliefs are allowable. To claim this exemption from immunizations for reason of conscience, the parent or legal guardian must submit a written request to obtain the Affidavit for Exemption from immunizations for Reasons of Conscience to the Department of State Health Services Immunization Branch. Affidavit forms are usually processed by DHS and mailed within 2 weeks from receipt of the request. Once this form is received by the parent or legal guardian, they must sign and have the form notarized and submit the original form to the school. Copies are void and will not be accepted. Since proof of immunization status is required before the first day of school, to claim this exemption, this form must be submitted prior to the first day of school. A new original copy of this form is required to be resubmitted every 2 years.

In the event of a disease outbreak, the Illinois Department of Health Services may mandate that students having exemptions from immunizations be kept out of school until the outbreak is over as determined by the Illinois Department of State of Health Services.

DENTAL EXAMINATION

Effective July 1, 2005 – Public Act 93-946 requires all Illinois children enrolling in kindergarten, second and six grade to have an oral health exam. Each child shall present proof of exam by a dentist prior to MAY 15th of the school year.

VISION EXAMINATION

Effective January 1, 2008 – Public Act 95-671 requires all Illinois children enrolling in kindergarten in a public, private, or parochial school and any student enrolling for the first time in a public, private or parochial school shall have an eye examination. Proof of having been examined by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches or a licensed optometrist within the previous year before October 15 of the school year. If the child fails to present proof by October 15, the school may hold the child's report card until either (a) the child presents proof of a completed eye examination or (b) the child presents proof that any eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION POLICIES

1. Prescription medications are to be brought to school in an original pharmaceutical container, labeled with the student's name, name of medication, dosage, and time of dosage.
2. Prescriptions and non-prescription medicines are to be kept in the school office in a secure place.
3. Prescription medications are to be administered only by authorized personnel, as per instructions on the Medical Form.
4. A record of the administration shall be kept in the school office and a notice is sent home as well.
5. It shall be the responsibility of the student to report to the school office at the designated times medication is to be taken.
6. Prescription refills shall be the responsibility of the parents.
7. In the event of physician ordered changes in a pupil's medication, the principal shall receive such orders directly from the parents and/or attending physician, and shall note such changes on the Medication Form.