



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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August 29, 2017

TO: Chief School Administrators  
Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads  
Administrators of Nonpublic Schools  
Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

ROUTE TO: School Nurses

FROM: Nancy Curry, Director  
Office of Student Support Services

SUBJECT: School Health Mandates

The purpose of this memo is to remind local school officials about certain statutory requirements in the area of school health services. To help support local schools' efforts in complying with these mandates, a summary of these mandates and resources is attached below. If you have any questions, please contact the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) Office of Student Support Services at [healthyschools@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:healthyschools@doe.state.nj.us).

c: Members, State Board of Education  
Kimberley Harrington, Commissioner  
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Executive County Superintendents  
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Statewide Parent Advocacy Network  
Garden State Coalition of Schools  
NJ LEE Group

## **Summary of Selected School Health Mandates and Resources**

August 2017

### **Annual Distribution of the Meningitis Fact Sheet**

*N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-21.2 requires that school districts annually distribute the [educational fact sheet on meningitis](#) to parents or guardians of students entering sixth grade. The fact sheet is also available to private schools, although they are encouraged, but not required, to distribute.

### **Annual Distribution of Fact Sheet on Human Papillomavirus (HPV)**

*N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-42 requires public schools to annually distribute a [fact sheet about vaccination against HPV](#) to parents or guardians of students in grade seven. Private schools are encouraged, but not required, to distribute the fact sheet.

### **Annual Distribution of Fact Sheet on Sports-Related Concussions and Concussion Model Policy Guidance**

*N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-41.3 requires each school district, charter school, renaissance school project, and nonpublic school that participates in interscholastic athletics to adopt by September 1, 2011, as well as annually review and update as needed thereafter, a [policy concerning the prevention and treatment of sports-related concussions and other head injuries among student athletes](#).

*N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-41.2 requires public schools to distribute the annual [educational fact sheet on sports-related concussion and head injury](#) to the parents or guardians of students participating in interscholastic sports and cheerleading and to obtain a signed receipt.

### **Annual In-Service About Asthma**

*N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-12.9 requires annual asthma education opportunities for teaching staff. The Pediatric/Adult Asthma Coalition of New Jersey (PACNJ) provides support to schools regarding asthma requirements. Additional information can be found on the [PACNJ Website](#).

### **Annual In-Service About Blood Borne Pathogens**

Federal Occupational Safety and Health regulations require annual in-service training for school staff. *N.J.A.C.* 8:61-2 (New Jersey Department of Health regulations) require public and nonpublic schools and daycare facilities to establish policies and procedures for handling blood and bodily fluids, and policies and procedures for post-exposure management. Schools and daycare facilities are required to provide training and appropriate supplies for all school personnel.

## **Epinephrine Training Protocols**

*N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-12.6 requires that, in consultation with the board of education, school nurses designate and train school employees who volunteer to administer epinephrine when the school nurse is not physically present at the scene. Please note that licensed athletic trainers who volunteer are not in violation of the *Athletic Training Licensure Act*. [Training Protocols for the Emergency Administration of Epinephrine](#) are available, pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-12.3–12.6.

## **Immunization Requirements for School-Age Youth**

School districts are required to annually review the immunization records of all students, pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 6A:16-2.2(a), and it is the responsibility of the certified school nurse to review all immunization records under *N.J.A.C.* 6A:16-2.3(b)3v. The NJDOE provided additional information to schools through Broadcast memos on August 29, 2017 regarding [enrollment considerations for homeless students](#) and [enrollment considerations for immigrant students](#).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides [additional information about vaccines and recommended schedules](#).

## **Janet's Law**

*N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-41a through 41c, in alignment with [P.L. 2012, c.51](#), requires public and nonpublic schools to have automated external defibrillators and to establish emergency action plans for responding to sudden cardiac events.

For further guidance regarding Janet's Law, access the [Frequently Asked Questions document](#) under "Sudden Cardiac Arrest."

## **Medical Marijuana Administration in Schools**

Pursuant to [P.L. 2015, c.158](#), a recent amendment to the New Jersey *Compassionate Use Medical Marijuana Act* (*P.L.* 2009, *c.*307), school officials must develop policies concerning the use and administration of medical marijuana in schools.

The NJDOE provided additional information to schools on May 24, 2016 through a [Broadcast memo](#).

## **NJ FamilyCare**

Pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 6A:16-2.2(j), school districts are required to make information accessible regarding the [NJ FamilyCare Program](#) for students who are knowingly without medical coverage.

## **Scholastic Student-Athlete Safety Act**

The *Scholastic Student-Athlete Safety Act* (*P.L.* 2013, *c.*71) was signed into law to establish measures to ensure the health of student athletes in public and nonpublic schools.

For assistance regarding the implementation of the *Scholastic Student-Athlete Safety Act*, please access the [frequently asked questions document](#).

Additionally, see both the [Scholastic Student-Athlete Safety Act Required Materials Broadcast memo](#), as well as the [Scholastic Student-Athlete Safety Act memo](#), for more information.

## **School Physician**

Pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-1.1, the appointed school physician, as a requirement of his or her contract, must complete the [Student-Athlete Cardiac Screening professional development module](#) and provide a copy of the certificate to the school.

## **Sports-Related Eye Injuries**

*N.J.S.A.* 18A: 40-41.9b requires each school district and nonpublic school to annually distribute the [educational fact sheet on sports-related eye injuries](#) to the parents or guardians of the students.

## **Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes Pamphlet**

Pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-41c through d, school districts must distribute the [Sudden Cardiac Death In Young Athletes pamphlet](#) to each student-athlete and to the parents or guardians of the student-athlete. The [student-athlete and parent or guardian certification and sign-off sheet](#) must also be disseminated and collected.

## **Tuberculosis (TB) Screening and Guidance**

The New Jersey Department of Health posts three pertinent documents on their website regarding [annual TB requirements](#), pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:40-16 through 19. The documents can be found under the headings on the right hand side of the page labeled "Schools" and "Frequently Asked Questions."