

REGULATION GUIDE

PUPILS
R 5310/page 1 of 8
Health Services
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R 5310 HEALTH SERVICES

A. Definitions – N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3

1. Advanced practice nurse – means a person who holds a current **license** as nurse practitioner/clinical nurse specialist from the State Board of Nursing.
2. Certified School Nurse – means a person who holds a current license as a registered professional nurse from the State Board of Nursing and an Educational Services **Certificate** school nurse or school nurse/non-instructional **endorsement** from the Department of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9-13.3 and 13.4.
3. Medical Examination – means the assessment of an individual’s health status.
4. Medical Home – means a health care provider, **including New Jersey FamilyCare providers as defined by N.J.S.A. 30:4J-12** and the provider’s practice site chosen by the **student’s** parent for the provision of health care.
5. Non-certified Nurse – means a person who holds a current license as a professional nurse from the State Board of Nursing and is employed by a district Board of Education or nonpublic school, and who is not certified as a school nurse by the Department of Education.
6. Physical Examination – means the examination of the body by a professional licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy, or an advanced practice nurse. The term includes specific procedures required by statute as stated in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2.
7. School Physician – means a physician with a current license to practice medicine or osteopathy from the New Jersey Board of Examiners who works under a contract or as an employee of the school district. The physician is also referred to as the medical inspector as per N.J.S.A. 18A:40-1.



REGULATION GUIDE

PUPILS
R 5310/page 2 of 8
Health Services

B. Medical Examinations – General Conditions

Each **student** medical examination shall be conducted at the medical home of the **student**. If a **student** does not have a medical home, the school district shall provide the examination at the school physician's office or other comparably equipped facility pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4. The findings of required examinations under C. through G. below shall include the following components:

1. Immunizations pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 through 4.24;
2. Medical history including allergies, past serious illnesses, injuries, operations, medications, and current health problems;
3. Health screenings including height, weight, hearing, blood pressure, and vision; and
4. Physical examinations.

The Board of Education shall make accessible information regarding the New Jersey FamilyCare Program for **students** who are knowingly without medical coverage pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-34.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4.4, a **student** who presents a statement signed by his/her parent that required examinations interfere with the free exercise of his/her religious beliefs shall be examined only to the extent necessary to determine whether the **student** is ill or infected with a communicable disease or under the influence of alcohol or drugs or is disabled or is fit to participate in any health, safety, or physical education course required by law.

Information concerning a **student's** HIV/AIDS status shall not be required as part of the medical examination or health history pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:5C-1 et seq.



REGULATION GUIDE

PUPILS
R 5310/page 3 of 8
Health Services

C. Medical Examinations - Prior to Participation on a School-Sponsored Interscholastic or Intramural Athletic Team or Squad for **Students** Enrolled in **Any** Grades Six to Twelve

The school district shall ensure that **students** receive medical examinations prior to participation on a school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or squad for **students** enrolled in any grade six to twelve.

1. The examination shall be conducted within 365 days prior to the first practice session.
2. The medical examination shall include a health history questionnaire completed and signed by the parent.
 - a. The report of health findings of the medical examination for participation shall be documented on the Athletic Preparticipation Physical Examination Form approved by the Commissioner of Education to determine whether the **student** had or currently has any of the following since their last physical:
 - (1) Injuries;
 - (2) Chronic or ongoing illness;
 - (3) **Need for** prescribed medication;
 - (4) Allergies;
 - (5) Head-related conditions;
 - (6) Heart-related conditions;
 - (7) Eye, ear, nose, mouth, or throat conditions;
 - (8) Neuromuscular/orthopedic conditions; or
 - (9) General or exercise-related conditions.



REGULATION GUIDE

PUPILS
R 5310/page 4 of 8
Health Services

- b. The medical report shall include a determination concerning the **student's** participation **that** includes, at a minimum, the following normalities:
- (1) Measurement of weight, height, and blood pressure;
 - (2) Examination of the skin to determine the presence of infection, scars from previous surgery or trauma, jaundice, a rash, and purpura;
 - (3) Examination of the eyes to determine visual acuity, use of eyeglasses or contact lenses, and examination of the sclera for the presence of jaundice;
 - (4) Examination of the ears to determine the presence of acute or chronic infection, perforation of the eardrum and gross hearing loss;
 - (5) Examination of the nose to assess the presence of deformity which may affect endurance;
 - (6) Assessment of the neck, back, and spine to determine range of motion, the presence of pain associated with such motion, and abnormal curvature of the spine;
 - (7) Examination of chest contour;
 - (8) Auscultation and percussion of the lungs;
 - (9) Assessment of the heart with attention to the presence of murmurs, noting rhythm and rate;
 - (10) Assessment of the abdomen with attention to the possible presence of **hepatomegaly**, splenomegaly, or abnormal masses;



REGULATION GUIDE

PUPILS
R 5310/page 5 of 8
Health Services

- (11) Examination of upper and lower extremities to determine abnormal mobility or immobility, deformity, instability, muscle weakness or atrophy, surgical scars and varicosities;
 - (12) Examination of the testes to determine the presence and descent of testes, abnormal masses, or configurations, or hernia;
 - (13) Assessment of physiological maturation; and
 - (14) Neurological examination to assess balance and coordination.
- c. The medical report shall indicate if a **student** is allowed or disallowed to participate in the required sports categories and **shall** be completed and signed by the original examining physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician's assistant.
- d. **An incomplete** a form shall be returned to the **student's** medical home for completion **unless the school nurse can provide documentation to the school physician that the missing information is available from screenings completed by the school nurse or physician within the prior 365 days.**
3. Each **student** whose medical examination was completed more than sixty days prior to the first practice session shall provide a health history update of medical problems experienced since the last medical examination. This shall be completed and signed by the parent. The health history update shall include the following information:
- a. Hospitalization/operations;
 - b. Illnesses;
 - c. Injuries;



REGULATION GUIDE

PUPILS
R 5310/page 6 of 8
Health Services

d. Care administered by a physician of medicine or osteopathy, advanced practice nurse, or physician's assistant; and

e. Medications.

4. Each school district shall provide to the parent written notification signed by the school physician stating approval of the student's participation in athletics based upon the medical report or the reasons for the school physician's disapproval of the student's participation.

5. A student who does not have a completed Athletic Preparticipation Physical Examination Form shall not be permitted to participate.

D. Medical Examinations - Upon Enrollment in School

1. The school district shall ensure that students receive medical examinations upon enrollment in school. The parent shall be required to provide examination documentation of each student within thirty days of enrollment in the school.

2. When a student transfers to another school, the sending school district shall ensure the entry-examination documentation is forwarded to the receiving school district pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.4(d).

3. Students transferring into this school district from out-of-State or out-of-country may be allowed a thirty-day period to obtain entry examination documentation.

4. The school district shall notify parents through its website or other means about the importance of obtaining subsequent medical examinations of the student at least once during each developmental stage; at early childhood (pre-school through grade three), pre-adolescence (grades four through six), and adolescence (grades seven through twelve);



REGULATION GUIDE

PUPILS
R 5310/page 7 of 8
Health Services

- E. Medical Examinations - When **Students** Apply for Working Papers
1. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:2-21.7 and 21.3, the school district **may provide** for the administration of a medical examinations for a **student** pursuing a certificate of employment.
 2. The school district shall not be held responsible for the costs for examinations at the **student's** medical home or **other medical provider(s)**.
- F. Medical Examinations - For the Purposes of the Comprehensive Child Study Team Evaluation Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.4
1. The school district shall ensure that **students** receive medical examinations for the purposes of the comprehensive Child Study Team evaluation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.4.
- G. Medical Examinations - When a **Student** is Suspected of Being Under the Influence of Alcohol or Controlled Dangerous Substances pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-12 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3
1. If a **student** who is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or controlled dangerous substances is reported to the certified school nurse, the certified school nurse shall monitor the **student's** vital signs and general health status for emergent issues and take appropriate action pending the medical examination pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3.
 2. No school staff shall interfere with a **student** receiving a medical examination for suspicion of being under the influence of alcohol or controlled dangerous substances pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3.



REGULATION GUIDE

PUPILS
R 5310/page 8 of 8
Health Services

H. Health Screenings

The Board of Education shall ensure that **students** receive health screenings in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(k).

1. Screening for height, weight, and blood pressure shall be conducted annually for each **student** in Kindergarten through grade twelve.
2. Screening for visual acuity shall be conducted biennially for **students** in Kindergarten through grade ten.
3. Screening for auditory acuity shall be conducted annually for **students** in Kindergarten through grade three and in grades seven and eleven pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4.
4. Screening for scoliosis shall be conducted biennially for **students** between the ages of ten and eighteen pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4.3.
5. Screenings shall be conducted by a school physician, school nurse, or other school personnel properly trained.
6. The school district shall provide for the notification of the parent of any **student** suspected of deviation from the recommended standard.

Revised:

