



Spring 2023

Dear Parents,

It's time for children entering kindergarten in the fall to have their health examinations and necessary immunizations. Michigan's immunization law requires that a child enrolled in school must be immunized against Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Polio, Chickenpox, and Hepatitis B. Your child's health care provider, or the health department, can administer the vaccines. In addition, there is a program available called Vaccines for Children that provides vaccine for children who lack health coverage. No child should be unprotected from vaccine-preventable diseases.

If you are choosing to waive vaccinations due to philosophical or religious reasons, please contact the health department to schedule a waiver education session. If your child is unable to have vaccines for a health reason, please contact your health care provider for a medical waiver form.

Vision and hearing screenings are also required. The hearing screening may be performed by a physician, audiologist, or health department technician—but in every case must be done on an audiometer. The vision screening may be performed by an ophthalmologist, optometrist, or by the health department technician. These screenings are free if done through the health department.

DHD#10 Hearing & Vision technicians are planning to hold screenings regularly during the summer at the health department. Appointments are required please call 888-217-3904.

New in 2022, the State of Michigan has implemented a Kindergarten Dental Assessment Program. The dental assessment may be performed by a Dentist, Registered Dental Hygienist, or a Dental Therapist. The health department dental screening program can provide this service at no cost to you. Appointments are required, please call (231) 674-5218 to schedule.

If your child already had hearing, vision and dental screenings done at a preschool and you have not retained a copy of the report, you may contact the health department and request a copy. For screenings done elsewhere, contact the provider for a copy and return these to the school before classes begin.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to these matters. By working together, we can all help children be healthy and ready to learn.

Sincerely,

Bethanie Dean, RN
Immunization Coordinator
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