

SECTION FOR CHILD CARE REGULATION CHILD IMMUNIZATION DOCUMENTATION IN REGULATED CHILD CARE

Missouri Law: Section 210.003, RSMo states, “No child shall be permitted to enroll in or attend any public, private or parochial day care center, preschool or nursery school caring for ten or more children unless such child has been adequately immunized against vaccine-preventable childhood illnesses specified by the department of health and senior services in accordance with recommendations of the Immunization Practices Advisory Committee (ACIP). The parent or guardian of such child shall provide satisfactory evidence of the required immunizations....”

Rule:

Family Child Care Homes – 19 CSR 30-61.185 (4) (A)
Group Homes and Centers – 19 CSR 30-62.192 (4) (A)
License-Exempt Child Care Facilities - 19 CSR 30-60.060 (3)

Child care providers are required to obtain immunization documentation at enrollment for compliance purposes. A child who has not completed all immunizations appropriate for his/her age may enroll if the facility has on file:

- A Medical Immunization Exemption (Imm.P-12) card signed by a licensed physician indicating that such immunization(s) would seriously endanger the child's health or life.
- A Parent/Guardian Immunization Exemption (Imm.P11) card signed by one parent/guardian stating their objections to immunization(s). This card must be renewed annually.
- An In Progress (Imm.P-14) card indicating the child has begun the vaccine series and has an appointment for the next dose.

Rationale:

Simply put, vaccines save lives. You have a responsibility to protect the children in your care from dangerous illnesses, such as measles, tetanus and hepatitis. Being a caregiver is a huge responsibility and it is important that you know the immunization law and rules that affect your facility.

Vaccines are essential tools in preventing serious widespread disease by significantly reducing childhood illnesses. By immunizing our children, we are protecting them and future generations from serious illness. Unimmunized children are at risk of contracting and spreading vaccine preventable diseases. During disease outbreaks, unimmunized children may be excluded from child care for their protection and to lessen the spread of disease to others.

Training:

The Department has developed free on-line training specifically for child care providers. The training can be accessed at <http://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/immunizations/daycarerequirements.php>. For the best experience with this training, it is recommended that you use Microsoft Internet Explorer 7.0 or greater.

Immunization 411 for Child Care Providers training consists of three modules. Participants may be awarded four clock hours of child care-related training.

- Module 1 - details the importance of immunizations for both child care workers and children.
- Module 2 - explains the state law and regulation regarding immunizations within the child care facility and demonstrates some of the tools available to ensure children in the facility are adequately immunized.
- Module 3 - is a simple step-by-step instructional guide on how to properly complete the state required child care/preschool immunization status report that is due by January 15 every year.

Providers with questions about immunizations should contact the Bureau of Immunization Assessment and Assurance toll free at 800.219.3224 or go to the above web address.

