

Lisbon Central School

August 5, 2021

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As many of you already know, on April 28th, 2021, Governor Lamont signed into law Public Act 21-6, “An Act Concerning Immunizations,” which updates Connecticut’s immunization requirements for students attending preK-12 schools, day care programs, and institutions of higher education by removing exemptions that are not medical. There are limited exceptions to the law. The law contains a provision allowing certain exemptions to remain in place, which effectively allows students, in certain limited circumstances, to continue to claim a religious exemption from statutory vaccination requirements. To be eligible for such an exemption, a student:

1. Must have been enrolled in a Connecticut school, in grades K-12 on or before the law went into effect (that is, by midnight April 28, 2021).
2. Must have submitted a valid religious exemption prior to the effective date (that is, by midnight April 27, 2021).
3. Both of the above conditions must be met to be eligible for the religious exemption.

Students enrolled in preschool or other pre-K program before April 28, 2021, (that is, as of April 27 at midnight), and who presented a valid religious exemption to the school by that time (April 27 at midnight), but did not present a written declaration from a physician, a physician assistant or advance practice registered nurse stating that additional immunizations are in process as recommended by one of those types of medical professionals, rather than as recommended under guidelines and schedules specified by the Commissioner of Public Health, must comply with the immunization guidelines and schedules specified by the Commissioner of Public Health by (1) September 1, 2022, or (2) within 14 days after transferring schools, whichever is later. Such students may, however, be permitted to follow an alternative vaccination schedule if recommended by a medical professional. Validly submitted religious exemptions for pre-K students may be valid upon such student’s transfer to Kindergarten, but not beyond (1) September 1, 2022, or (2) within 14 days after transferring schools within Connecticut (public or private school), whichever is later.

Please contact the school nurse’s office with any questions on how this may affect your child’s entry into the 2021-2022 school year and/or see the attached document from the CSDE to address questions about this new state law.

Sincerely,

Theresa Svab
School Nurse