

TOLLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Tolland, Connecticut

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

REGARDING: Health Assessments/
Screenings

Number: 5170
Administrative

Approved: 6/11/03
Revised: 4/28/04
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I. Assessments

The Tolland Board of Education requires each student enrolled in the Tolland Public Schools to have health assessments as mandated by state law. The purpose of such health assessments shall be to ascertain whether a student has any physical disability tending to prevent him/her from receiving the full benefit of school work and to ascertain whether school work should be modified in order to prevent injury to the student or to secure a suitable program of education for him/her. Such health assessments must be conducted by a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, an advanced practice registered nurse or registered nurse, who is licensed under state statute, a physician assistant, who is licensed under state statute, or the school medical advisor. The Board of Education will provide written prior notice of the health assessments required under this policy to the parent or guardian of each student subject to assessment. The parent or guardian shall be provided a reasonable opportunity to be present during such assessment or he/she may provide for such assessment him/herself. No health assessment shall be made of any public school student unless it is made in the presence of the parent or guardian or in the presence of another school employee. Any student who fails to obtain the health assessments required by this policy made be denied continued attendance in the Tolland Public Schools.

II. Assessments Required

Prior to enrollment in the Tolland Public Schools, each student must undergo a health assessment, which shall include: (1) a physical examination, which includes hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height, weight and blood pressure, and beginning with the 2003-2004 school year, a chronic disease assessment which shall include; but not be limited to, asthma as defined by the commissioner of public health pursuant to subsection (c) of section 19a-62a of the Connecticut

General Statutes. The assessment form shall include (a) a check box for the provider conducting the assessment, to indicate an asthma diagnosis, (b) screening questions relating to appropriate public health concerns to be answered by the parent or guardian, and (c) screening questions to be answered by such provider; (2) an updating of immunizations as required by state law; (3) vision, hearing, speech and gross dental screenings; and (4) such other information, including health and developmental history, as the physician feels is necessary and appropriate.

The pre-enrollment assessment shall also include tests for sickle cell anemia or Cooley's anemia, and tests for lead levels in the blood, if, after consultation with the school medical advisor and the local health department, the Board determines that such tests are necessary. Such tests must be conducted by a registered nurse acting pursuant to the written order of a physician's assistant, licensed under state law, or of an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed under state law.

Each student enrolled in the Tolland Public Schools in grade six and in grade ten must undergo a health assessment, which shall include (1) a physical examination, which includes hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height, weight and blood pressure; (2) an updating of immunizations as required by state law; (3) vision, hearing, postural and gross dental screenings; and (4) such other information, including health and developmental history, as the physician feels is necessary and appropriate.

The grade six and grade ten assessments shall also include tests for sickle cell anemia or Cooley's anemia, if, after consultation with the school medical advisor and the local health department, the Board determines that such tests are necessary. Such tests must be conducted by a registered nurse acting pursuant to the written order of a physician, or physician's assistant, licensed under state law, or of an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed under state law.

The Board of Education shall provide such assessments free of charge to students whose parents or guardians meet the eligibility requirements for free and reduced price meals under the National School Lunch Program or for free milk under the special milk program.

III. Screenings Required

The Board of Education will provide annually to each student enrolled in kindergarten, grades one to six, inclusive, and grade nine, a vision screening using a Snellen chart or equivalent screening. The school building nurse shall give written notice to the parent or guardian of each student who is found to have any defect of vision or disease of the eyes, with a brief statement describing the defect or disease.

The Board of Education will provide annually to each student enrolled in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, grade five and grade eight, audiometric screening for hearing. The school building nurse shall give written notice to the parent or guardian of each student who is found to have any impairment or defect of hearing, with a brief statement describing the impairment or defect.

The Board of Education will provide annual postural screenings for each student in grades five to nine. The school building nurse shall give written notice to the parent or guardian of each student who evidences any postural problem, with a brief statement describing such evidence.

All of the screenings required under this policy will be performed in accordance with regulations applicable to such screenings as adopted by the State Board of Education.

IV. Assessment/Screening Results

The results of each assessment and screening required by this policy shall be recorded on forms supplied by the State Board of Education. Each physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant performing health assessments under this policy shall sign each form and any recommendations concerning a student shall be in writing. Assessment/screening forms shall be included in the cumulative health record of each student and they shall be kept on file in the school attended by the student. If a student permanently leaves the Tolland Public Schools, for another town in Connecticut, his/her cumulative health record shall be sent to the chief administrative officer of the school district to which the student moves, with the Tolland Board of Education retaining a copy. The original will be kept if the student is leaving the state with a copy being sent to the town and state the student will be residing in.

Appropriate school health personnel shall review the results of each assessment and screening. If the reviewing school health personnel judge that a student is in need of further testing or treatment, the school building nurse shall give written notice to the parent or guardian of such student and shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that such further testing or treatment is provided. Reasonable efforts shall include determination of whether the parent or guardian has obtained the necessary testing or treatment for the student, and, if not, advising the parent or guardian how such testing or treatment may be obtained. The results of such further testing or treatment shall be recorded, kept on file and reviewed by appropriate school health personnel in the same manner as the results of the health assessments and screenings required under this policy.

V. Exemption

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to require any student to undergo a physical or medical examination or treatment, or be compelled to receive medical instruction, if the parent or legal guardian of such student or the student, if he/she is an emancipated minor or is eighteen years of age or older, notifies the teacher or principal or other person in charge of such student in writing that he/she objects on religious grounds to such physical or medical examination or treatment or medical instruction.

School representative to receive information concerning health assessments:

The Board of Education designates the school building nurse as the representative for receipt of reports from health care providers concerning student health assessments.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes

§ 10-206 Health Assessments

§ 10-206a Free Health Assessments

§ 10-208 Exemption from Examination or Treatment

§ 10-214 Vision, Audiometric and Postural

Screenings: when required; notification of parents re defects;
record of results

Public Act 03-211, "An Act Concerning the Provision of Medical Care for
Students' Health Care Needs"

Public Act 07-58, "An Act Concerning Health Assessments for
Adolescents"

Federal law:

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the No
Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Public Law 107-110, § 1061, Codified at 20
U.S.C.. § 1232h.