Understanding the Utah Immunization Rule for Students

Module II
Utah School Immunization Record for Early Childhood Programs
Utah School Immunization Record
About This Module

**Purpose:** To provide information to early childhood program personnel regarding requirements pertaining to the Utah School Immunization Record (USIR).

**Goal:** To improve understanding and usage of the Utah School Immunization Record in Utah early childhood programs.

**Objectives:**
- Define “official certificate of immunization.”
- Define “appropriate immunization documentation.”
- Describe the vaccines currently required for early childhood program entry.
- Describe appropriate documentation of Medical, Religious and Personal exemptions.
- Define proof of immunity (history of disease) and appropriate documentation of immunity.
- Describe who is responsible for verifying the USIR.
- Describe the School Record of children’s immunization status.
Each early childhood program must maintain *hard copies* of official certificates of immunization for every enrolled child to verify each child’s immunization status.

The Utah School Immunization Record (USIR) is the official certificate of immunization for children in early childhood programs.
Official Use of the Utah School Immunization Record

- The USIR may be printed from the Utah Statewide Immunization Information System (USIIS).

- The USIR may also be printed from the Utah Immunization Program website immunize.utah.gov. It can be printed on any color paper.

- Records printed from USIIS are acceptable as the official immunization record and are considered equivalent to the USIR.
Vaccine Requirements

- The USIR shall document all the vaccines a child has received, including the month, date and year each vaccine was received.

- Children enrolled in early childhood programs must be appropriately immunized for their age with the following immunizations:
  - DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis)
  - Polio
  - MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
  - Hepatitis A
  - Hepatitis B
  - Varicella (chickenpox)
  - Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
  - Pneumococcal

**NOTES**

Proof of immunity to disease(s) can be accepted in place of vaccination only if a document is presented to the early childhood program from a healthcare provider stating the child previously contracted the disease.

The Utah Immunization Guidebook [https://immunize.utah.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Immunization_Guidebook.pdf](https://immunize.utah.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Immunization_Guidebook.pdf) has information on each required vaccine and the schedule that should be followed, including minimum intervals between each dose.
Appropriate Immunization Documentation - Vaccines

- All children must have an official certificate of immunization received or an official Medical, Religious or Personal Exemption form, or proof of immunity, if applicable.

- When reviewing the immunization record of a child, ensure that information regarding each required vaccination the child has received, including the date each vaccine was administered, has been verified by a licensed healthcare provider, registered nurse, public health official, or pharmacist.

- The information must be transferred to the USIR.

- The USIR must be verified by the officials at the early childhood program.
Exemptions Documentation

The Rule allows the following exemptions for early childhood program entry:

- Medical
- Religious
- Personal

- Children claiming an exemption to the required vaccinations must have their legally responsible individual complete the online educational module at [https://immunize.utah.gov/immunization-education-module/](https://immunize.utah.gov/immunization-education-module/) (free of charge), or in-person consultation (fee of up to $25) at a local health department, AND provide a copy of the completed form to the early childhood program official.

- Completion of the online educational module or in-person consultation at a local health department must be done for all types of exemptions.
Exemptions Documentation

- For a medical exemption from required immunizations, the child's legally responsible individual must provide to the child’s early childhood program a completed vaccination exemption form AND a written statement signed by a licensed healthcare provider stating that, due to the physical condition of the child, administration of the vaccine would endanger the student's life or health.

- For personal/religious exemption from the required vaccinations, the child's legally responsible individual must provide to the child’s early childhood program a copy of the exemption form.
Exemptions Documentation

- For children with a temporary medical exemption enter the exemption expiration date in the appropriate field. Upon expiration of temporary status, immunizations will be required and the exemption status should be.

- A copy of the signed vaccination exemption form must be attached to the Utah School Immunization Record (USIR) and filed in the child’s folder.

- A written statement from a licensed healthcare provider must also be attached to the USIR if a medical exemption is claimed.
Exemptions

- Vaccination exemption forms provided to a preschool or child care program do not need to be renewed as long as the child is in preschool or any child care program - even if the child changes preschools or child care programs.

- However, if a child changes schools and is old enough to enroll in kindergarten or the child turns six years old, the child must renew his/her vaccination exemption form. In other words – children must renew their vaccination exemption forms for kindergarten entry.
Proof of Immunity (History of Disease Verification)

- If a child is claiming immunity against a disease for which vaccination is required because the child previously contracted the disease, the child must submit a document signed by a healthcare provider to the early childhood program as proof of immunity.

- Check the appropriate proof of immunity box if applicable.
Record Source/Authorized Signature

- The early childhood program official should indicate the source of the original records, such as a statewide registry, child’s former school (daycare), or legally responsible individual of the child.

- Once the record has been appropriately completed, the early childhood program official or health personnel who verified the Utah School Immunization record (USIR) against the source records must sign the USIR.

- For more information visit the Utah Immunization Program website at immunize.utah.gov or contact us at 801-538-9450.
School Record of Children’s Immunization Status

Each early childhood program must maintain a current list of all enrolled students, including:

- list of children the early childhood program has received a valid and complete immunization record;

- list of children who are exempt from receiving a required vaccine;

- list of children who are allowed to attend early childhood program under conditional enrollment status; and

- list that specifically identifies each disease against which a child is not immunized.
School Record of Children’s Immunization Status

Upon the request of an official from a local health department in the event of a disease outbreak, an early childhood program administrator must:

(a) notify the legally responsible of any child who is not immune to the outbreak disease, providing information regarding steps the legally responsible individual may take to protect students;

(b) identify each child who is not immune to the outbreak disease; and

(c) for a period determined by the local health department not to exceed the duration of the disease outbreak, do one of the following at the discretion of the early childhood program administrator after obtaining approval from the local health department:
School Record of Children’s Immunization Status

(i) provide a separate educational environment for non-immune children, that ensures the protection of the non immune children as well as the protection of the remainder of the children; or

(ii) prevent each child who is not immune to the outbreak disease from attending early childhood program.

A name appearing on the list of all the enrolled children is subject to confidentiality requirements described in Section 26-1-17.5 and Section 53E-9-202.

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