



Office of Student Health and Wellness
42 West Madison, Garden • Chicago, Illinois 60602
Telephone: 773-553-3560 • Fax: 773-553-1357

May 20, 2019

Dear Principals,

Over the weekend, there was a confirmed case of the measles in Chicago — the eighth in Illinois this year. Vaccine-unprotected students are at risk for contracting and spreading this disease to others, and we need your assistance in meeting the state's immunization requirements to ensure the health and wellness of our students and staff.

The health and well-being of our school communities is our highest priority. Please strongly encourage families to schedule physical exams, review immunization records, and if their immunizations are not up to date, complete vaccinations now before the back-to-school rush. Families can find a health center at <https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/>.

As a reminder, all new students must provide proof of required immunization and health exams at the time of enrollment (including those who enter *after the* October 15 deadline). Currently enrolled students must also provide proof of immunization and exam at specific grade levels (Pre-K, K, 6 and 9) no later than October 15th each year.

Immunization coverage rates for individual networks and schools are available on Dashboard. Every school should generate its own list of vaccine-unprotected students from Dashboard. Your school nurse can help follow up and notify families of students who are unprotected and not in compliance.

The following circumstances allow for immunization waivers.

- Medical exemption: Vaccine not given for specific medical reasons determined by a physician and documented in a written statement attached to the state physical exam form
- Religious Exemption: A [State Certificate](#) signed by a physician
- Registration as a Student in Temporary Living Situation (STLS): Per the McKinney-Vento Act, these students are not required to show proof of immunization or exam

Documentation of medical and religious exemptions must be uploaded into the student information system.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your school nurse or the Office of Student Health & Wellness (oshw@cps.edu).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth L. Fox", is positioned above the name and title of the Chief Health Officer.

Kenneth L. Fox, MD
Chief Health Officer