

IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS AMENDMENTS

2016 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Carol Spackman Moss

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to immunization requirements for students.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ amends requirements for a student seeking an immunization exemption;
- ▶ requires the Department of Health to:
 - develop an immunization exemption form;
 - develop an education module; and
 - make rules;
- ▶ requires a local health department to issue an immunization exemption form under certain conditions;
- ▶ requires an individual to complete an education module as a condition for receiving an immunization exemption form;
- ▶ requires an individual to renew an immunization exemption annually at the individual's school;
- ▶ requires a school to maintain a list of students who have not received required immunizations;
- ▶ amends provisions related to a conditional enrollment; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.



28 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

29 None

30 **Other Special Clauses:**

31 This bill provides a special effective date.

32 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

33 AMENDS:

34 **26-1-17.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 382

35 **53A-11-301**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1992, Chapter 53

36 **53A-11-302**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 395

37 **53A-11-303**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2

38 **53A-11-304**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2

39 **53A-11-306**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2

40 ENACTS:

41 **53A-11-300.5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

42 REPEALS AND REENACTS:

43 **53A-11-302.5**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1992, Chapter 129



45 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

46 Section 1. Section **26-1-17.5** is amended to read:

47 **26-1-17.5. Confidential records.**

48 (1) A record classified as confidential under this title shall remain confidential, and be
49 released according to the provisions of this title, notwithstanding Section **63G-2-310**.

50 (2) In addition to those persons granted access to ~~[records]~~ a private record described in
51 Subsection **63G-2-302(1)(b)**, immunization records may be shared among schools, school
52 districts, and local and state health departments and the state Department of Human Services as
53 necessary to ~~[assure]~~ ensure compliance with ~~[Section 53A-11-301]~~ Title 53A, Chapter 11, Part
54 3, Immunization of Students, and to prevent, investigate, and control the causes of epidemic,
55 infectious, communicable, and other diseases affecting the public health.

56 Section 2. Section **53A-11-300.5** is enacted to read:

57 **53A-11-300.5. Definitions.**

58 As used in this part:

- 59 (1) "Certificate of immunization" means:
 60 (a) a certification stating that a student received each required immunization, including
 61 the date each immunization was administered, issued by:
 62 (i) a licensed health care provider;
 63 (ii) an authorized representative of a local health department; or
 64 (iii) an authorized representative of the department; or
 65 (b) verification from the department, through a central database, that a student has
 66 received each required immunization, including the date each immunization was administered.
 67 (2) "Department" means the Department of Health, created in Section [26-1-4](#).
 68 (3) "Immunization exemption form" means a form, described in Section [53A-11-302.5](#),
 69 that exempts a student from one or more required immunizations.
 70 (4) "Local Education Agency" or "LEA" means:
 71 (a) a school district;
 72 (b) a charter school; or
 73 (c) the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.
 74 (5) "Required immunizations" means immunizations against communicable diseases
 75 required by department rule described in Section [53A-11-303](#).
 76 (6) "School" means:
 77 (a) center-based child care, as defined in Section [26-39-102](#);
 78 (b) a public school, as defined in Section [26-39-102](#);
 79 (c) residential child care, as defined in Section [26-39-102](#); or
 80 (d) a private school that:
 81 (i) is not primarily funded at public expense; and
 82 (ii) provides education to students in any grade from kindergarten through grade 12.
 83 (7) "Student" means an individual who attends a school.

84 Section 3. Section **53A-11-301** is amended to read:

85 **53A-11-301. Certificate of immunization required -- Exceptions-- Weighted Pupil**
 86 **Unit funding.**

- 87 (1) ~~(a) [Unless exempted for personal, medical, or religious objections as provided in~~
 88 ~~Section [53A-11-302](#);~~ Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a student may not attend a
 89 ~~[public, private, or parochial kindergarten, elementary, or secondary school through grade 12,~~

90 ~~nursery school, licensed day care center, child care facility, family care home, or headstart~~
91 ~~program in this state]~~ school unless there is presented to the appropriate official of the school a
92 certificate of immunization [~~from a licensed physician or authorized representative of the state~~
93 ~~or local health department stating that the student has received immunization against~~
94 ~~communicable diseases as required by rules adopted under Section 53A-11-303]~~ for the
95 student.

96 (b) A student who does not present a certificate of immunization may attend a school if
97 the student:

98 (i) is exempt as described in Section 53A-11-302;

99 (ii) qualifies for conditional enrollment under Section 53A-11-306; or

100 (iii) meets:

101 (A) the definition of a student under Section 53A-1-1001; and

102 (B) the immunization requirements for military children under Section 53A-1-1001.

103 (2) [school districts] An LEA may not receive weighted pupil unit money for a student
104 unless the student [has obtained]:

105 (a) presents a certificate of immunization [under this section or qualifies for
106 conditional enrollment or an exemption from immunization under Section 53A-11-302.]; or

107 (b) is allowed to attend school without presenting a certificate of immunization as
108 described in Subsection (1)(b).

109 Section 4. Section 53A-11-302 is amended to read:

110 **53A-11-302. Exemption from required immunizations.**

111 [~~(1) A student may not enter school without a certificate of immunization, except as~~
112 ~~provided in this section.]~~

113 [~~(2) Except as provided in Section 53A-1-1001, a student who at the time of school~~
114 ~~enrollment has not been completely immunized against each specified disease may attend~~
115 ~~school under a conditional enrollment if the student has received one dose of each specified~~
116 ~~vaccine prior to enrollment.]~~

117 [(3)] A student is exempt from receiving [the required immunizations] required
118 immunizations if there is presented to the appropriate official of the school [~~one or more of the~~
119 ~~following]:~~

120 [(a)] (1) for an exemption for a medical reason, at the beginning of each school year

121 that a student is exempt:

122 (a) a certificate from a licensed ~~[physician]~~ health care provider stating that due to the
123 physical condition of the student ~~[one or more specified immunizations]~~, a required
124 immunization would endanger the student's life or health; and

125 (b) a certificate of completion for the online education module described in Section
126 53A-11-302.5; or

127 ~~[(b) A completed form obtained at the local health department where the student~~
128 ~~resides, providing:]~~

129 ~~[(i) the information required under Subsection 53A-11-302.5(1); and]~~

130 ~~[(ii) a statement that the person has a personal belief opposed to immunizations, which~~
131 ~~is signed by one of the individuals listed in Subsection 53A-11-302(3)(c) and witnessed by the~~
132 ~~local health officer or his designee; or]~~

133 ~~[(c) a statement that the person is a bona fide member of a specified, recognized~~
134 ~~religious organization whose teachings are contrary to immunizations, signed by one of the~~
135 ~~following persons:]~~

136 ~~[(i) one of the student's parents;]~~

137 ~~[(ii) the student's guardian;]~~

138 ~~[(iii) a legal age brother or sister of a student who has no parent or guardian; or]~~

139 ~~[(iv) the student, if of legal age.]~~

140 (2) for an exemption for a personal or religious belief:

141 (a) for the first year a student intends to receive an exemption, an immunization
142 exemption form described in Section 53A-11-302.5; or

143 (b) for a year other than the first year that a student receives an exemption, a certificate
144 of completion for the online education module described in Section 53A-11-302.5.

145 Section 5. Section 53A-11-302.5 is repealed and reenacted to read:

146 **53A-11-302.5. Immunization exemption form -- Online education module --**

147 **Annual requirement.**

148 (1) The department shall:

149 (a) develop an immunization exemption form that:

150 (i) specifies if an exemption is for a personal or religious belief;

151 (ii) certifies that the individual who signs the form has completed the online education

152 module described in Subsection (2);

153 (iii) indicates that a student who has an immunization exemption form is required to
154 renew the exemption each year at the student's school;

155 (iv) states the department's position regarding the benefits of immunization;

156 (v) states requirements for a student who has not received required immunizations, in
157 the event of an outbreak of a vaccine preventable illness;

158 (vi) includes a statement claiming exemption from one or more required
159 immunizations, signed by:

160 (A) a student's parent or legal guardian;

161 (B) for a student who does not have a parent or legal guardian, the student's sibling of
162 legal age; or

163 (C) for a student 18 years of age or older, the student;

164 (vii) the name and address of the individual who signs the form;

165 (viii) the name of the student claiming exemption from one or more required
166 immunizations; and

167 (ix) the school the student attends at the time the form is signed; and

168 (b) provide the immunization exemption form to each local health department to
169 distribute.

170 (2) (a) The department shall develop an online education module that includes:

171 (i) information about vaccine preventable illnesses;

172 (ii) recommendations to reduce the likelihood of an unvaccinated individual
173 contracting or transmitting a vaccine preventable illness;

174 (iii) information, based on the best available science, about vaccine benefits and side
175 effects;

176 (iv) interactive questions or activities; and

177 (v) for an individual who completes the module, a certificate of completion.

178 (b) In developing the online education module, the department shall consult with
179 individuals interested in vaccination requirements, including individuals from organizations for
180 health care professionals.

181 (3) (a) A local health department shall provide an immunization exemption form to an
182 individual who:

183 (i) requests an immunization exemption form for a student;
184 (ii) is an individual described in Subsection (1)(a)(vi); and
185 (iii) presents a certificate of completion for the online education module described in
186 Subsection (2).

187 (b) A local health department may not issue an immunization exemption form to an
188 individual who does not present a certificate of completion for the online education module
189 described in Subsection (2).

190 (c) An individual who is eligible to sign an immunization exemption form for multiple
191 students may present a single certificate of completion described in Subsection (2) to receive an
192 immunization exemption form for each student.

193 (4) (a) An immunization exemption form accepted by a school is valid for one full
194 school year.

195 (b) In a year after the first year that a school accepts an immunization exemption form
196 for a student, in order to renew the exemption, the student's parent or legal guardian shall:

197 (i) complete the online education module described in Subsection (2); and
198 (ii) present the certificate of completion described in Subsection (2) directly to the
199 student's school.

200 (c) An LEA may not charge a fee to renew an immunization exemption form.

201 (d) A student who is exempt from immunization requirements and transfers to or
202 enrolls in a different school may renew the exemption at the new school, as described in
203 Subsection (4)(b), if the student's previous school confirms that the student has an exemption
204 from immunization.

205 (5) A student who has an immunization exemption for a personal or religious belief for
206 the 2016-2017 school year or earlier:

207 (a) is not required to obtain a new immunization exemption form from a local health
208 department; and

209 (b) shall renew the exemption each year as described in Subsection (4).

210 Section 6. Section 53A-11-303 is amended to read:

211 **53A-11-303. Department of Health regulations.**

212 (1) [~~The Department of Health~~] In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
213 Administrative Rulemaking Act, the department shall [adopt] make rules to establish:

214 (a) which immunizations are required as a condition for attending school; and
 215 (b) the manner and frequency of [~~their~~] the administration of required immunizations.

216 (2) The rules [~~adopted~~] made under Subsection (1) shall:

217 (a) conform to recognized standard medical practices[~~;~~]; and

218 [~~(3) The rules shall~~]

219 (b) require [~~the reporting of~~] a school to report statistical information and names of
 220 [~~noncompliers by the schools~~] students who are not in compliance with Section 53A-11-301 to
 221 the department.

222 (3) The department may make rules to implement:

223 (a) the immunization exemption form described in Section 53A-11-302.5;

224 (b) the online education module described in Section 53A-11-302.5; or

225 (c) the requirements for a conditional enrollment described in Section 53A-11-306.

226 Section 7. Section **53A-11-304** is amended to read:

227 **53A-11-304. Certificate part of student's record -- Forms for certificates --**

228 **Recording of immunization record as official certificate -- School record of noncertificate**
 229 **holders.**

230 (1) [~~Each~~] A school shall retain an official [certificates] certificate of immunization for
 231 [~~every~~] an enrolled student[~~. The certificate becomes a~~] that is part of the [individual] student's
 232 permanent school record [and follows the student through his or her public or private school
 233 career].

234 (2) The [~~Department of Health shall provide official certificate of immunization forms~~
 235 ~~to public and private~~] department shall create an immunization form and distribute the
 236 immunization form to schools, [physicians] health care providers, and local health departments.

237 [~~The forms referred to in this subsection shall include a clear statement of the student's rights~~
 238 ~~under Section 53A-11-302.~~]

239 [~~(3) Any immunization record provided by a licensed physician, registered nurse, or~~
 240 ~~public health official may be accepted by a school official as a certificate of immunization if~~
 241 ~~the type of immunization given and the dates given are specified and the]~~

242 (3) (a) A school shall record the information [is transferred to] on a certificate of
 243 immunization as an official certificate of immunization [and verified by the school district in
 244 which the public or private school is located].

245 (b) A school shall verify the information on a certificate of immunization.

246 (4) (a) At the beginning of each school year, a school shall create a list of students who
 247 do not have an official certificate of immunization, noting if a student on the list is allowed to
 248 attend school without presenting a certificate of immunization, under Section 53A-11-301.

249 (b) A school shall provide the list of students described in Subsection (4)(a) to the
 250 principal or other school director each year.

251 (c) A name appearing on the list described in Subsection (4)(a) is subject to
 252 confidentiality requirements described in Section 26-1-17.5 and Section 53A-13-301.

253 Section 8. Section **53A-11-306** is amended to read:

254 **53A-11-306. Conditional enrollment -- Suspension for noncompliance --**

255 **Procedure.**

256 ~~[(1) Conditional enrollment time periods may be modified by the department by legally~~
 257 ~~adopted rules.]~~

258 (1) A student who has not received the required immunizations may attend school on a
 259 conditional enrollment:

260 (a) if the student has received a dose of each required vaccine, but is not due for the
 261 next dose of the vaccine under department rule described in Section 53A-11-303; or

262 (b) for up to 21 calendar days after:

263 (i) the first day of school for a student who enrolls in a school before October 1; or

264 (ii) the student enrolls in a school for a student who enrolls on or after October 1.

265 ~~[(2) The requirements for conditional enrollment shall apply to each student unless that~~
 266 ~~student is exempted under Section 53A-11-302.]~~

267 (2) (a) After the conditional enrollment period, a school shall prohibit further
 268 attendance of a student who does not comply with Section 53A-11-301.

269 ~~[(3)]~~ (b) After five days of a conditional enrollment described in this section, a school
 270 shall mail written notice [of a pending suspension and of the student's rights under Section
 271 53A-11-302 shall be mailed] that:

272 (i) the student will be suspended at the end of the conditional enrollment if the student
 273 is not in compliance with Section 53A-11-301; and

274 (ii) describes the process for obtaining the required immunizations or an immunization
 275 exemption form to the last-known address of [a] the student's:

276 (A) parent[;];
277 (B) legal guardian[;]; or
278 (C) [or] legal age [~~brother or sister of~~] sibling for a student who [~~is without~~] does not
279 have a parent or legal guardian[; ~~the governing authority of any school shall prohibit further~~
280 ~~attendance by a student under a conditional enrollment who has failed to obtain the~~
281 ~~immunization required within time period set forth in Section 53A-11-302 or otherwise~~
282 ~~established by rule].~~

283 [(4)] (3) [~~Parents~~] A parent or [guardians] legal guardian of [~~children who are~~] a
284 student who is prohibited from attending school for failure to comply with the provisions of
285 this part shall be referred to the juvenile court.

286 Section 9. **Effective date.**

287 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2017.

Legislative Review Note
Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel