

DIANE WORKMAN  
Superintendent

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ERIN BLUEDORN, CPA  
Business Manager  
School Board Secretary

[www.freedomareaschools.org](http://www.freedomareaschools.org)

March 27, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Yesterday, you were informed of the requirement to submit specific medical records for your child(ren) to the school nurse. The letter outlined specific immunizations, physical exams and dental screenings which are required by PA Law.

PA Law also allows for exemption of immunizations for the following reasons:

- if a physician or physician's designee provides a written statement that immunization may be detrimental to the health of the child; or
- religious grounds, or
- on the basis of strong moral or ethical conviction similar to religious belief.

Most likely, your child(ren) have been seen by a physician and dentist, and you have discussed your concerns about the required immunizations with your child's/children's physician. In order to be compliant with Pennsylvania law, the attached Exemption Form must be completed and turned into your child's/children's school office, emailed to [wkline@freedomarea.org](mailto:wkline@freedomarea.org), or faxed to the appropriate school. Without proper medical records your child(ren) is/are at risk of being excluded from school until all medical records are received. If your child(ren) have not met the above requirements, please contact your physician and/or dentist as soon as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Diane A. Workman  
Superintendent

## Pennsylvania Code §23.84 Exemption from Immunization

a.) **Medical Exemption.** Children need not be immunized if a physician or the physician's designee provides a written statement that immunization may be detrimental to the health of the child. When the physician determines that immunization is no longer detrimental to the health of the child, the child shall be immunized according to this subchapter.

b.) **Religious Exemption.** Children need not be immunized if the parent, guardian or emancipated child objects in writing to the immunization on religious grounds or on the basis of strong moral or ethical conviction similar to religious belief.

### Source

The provisions of §23.84 amended through September 17, 1982, effective August 1, 1983, 12 PA.B. 3288; amended August 22, 1997, effective August 23, 1997, 27 PA.B.4317. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (164332) to (164333) and (129145) .

### Cross References

This section cited in 22 PA Code§ 11.20 (relating to non-immunized children); 22 PA Code§ 51.13 (relating to immunization); 28 PA Code§ 23.85 (relating to responsibilities of schools and school administrators); and 28 PA Code§ 27.77 (relating to immunization requirements for children in child care group settings).

Chapter 23 School Health, Subchapter C Immunization  
<http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/028/chapter23/chap23toc.html#23.2>

For more information on Pennsylvania state laws regarding vaccinations go to  
<http://www.vaclib.org/exempt/pennsylvania.htm>

## Statement of Exemption to Immunization Law Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Present Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent or guardian of the above name child adheres to a religious belief whose teachers are opposed to such immunization OR holds strong moral or ethical conviction similar to a religious belief that is opposed to such immunizations.**

**My child is exempt from the following immunizations:**

**All Students**

- 4 doses of Tetanus and Diphtheria (1 dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- 4 dose of polio (last dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- 2 dose of Measles, Mumps, Rubella (usually given as MMR)
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of Varicella (chickenpox) or history of disease
- All vaccines listed above

**Students in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- 1 dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap)
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)

**Students in 12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- 2 dose of MCV (1 dose for 7<sup>th</sup> grade, 2<sup>nd</sup> dose for 12<sup>th</sup> grade entry)