

August 2014

Dear Superintendent/Principal/Nurse/Administrator:

The purpose of this letter is to notify schools of important updates regarding the implementation of Public Health Law § 2164 for the 2014-15 school year.

- The due date for the 2014-15 School Immunization Survey will be extended until December 15, 2014 to allow schools additional time to review student immunization records and complete the survey.
 - All schools in New York State should have access to either the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS) and/or the Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR). Both registries provide immunization histories that show vaccinations and dates administered, invalid doses and forecasting of the correct timing for future immunizations. NYSIIS and/or CIR will **automatically** report on whether the number of doses is age-appropriate and whether the intervals are correct. If a student is not already registered in NYSIIS or CIR, the school nurse must check that the vaccines comply with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) schedule. Using NYSIIS or CIR can help relieve the workload of reviewing vaccine records for adherence to school entry requirements. Additionally, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's), *Instant Childhood Immunization Schedule*, is an extremely helpful tool that can be utilized to assist with determining what vaccines are required and when they are due for a particular student based on their birth date. CDC's *Instant Childhood Immunization Schedule* can be found at http://www2a.cdc.gov/nip/kidstuff/newscheduler_le/.
 - For information on how to access the NYSIIS, please contact nysiis@health.state.ny.us.
 - For information on how to access the CIR, please contact nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov.
- Per Public Health Law § 2164, section 66-1.5, *Immunization records from previous schools*, an immunization record forwarded from a child's previous school, which contains all required information, including clear documentation of the specific vaccine(s) which were administered and the date(s) of vaccine administration, may be accepted by the principal or person in charge of the school in lieu of a certificate of immunization.

Thank you for the continued cooperation and vigilance regarding these issues. If you have any questions please call the School Assessment Unit at 518-474-1944 or send an email to the OSAS BML at osas@health.state.ny.us (518) 474 – 1944.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Rausch-Phung, M.D., M.P.H.
Acting Bureau Director
Bureau of Immunization

cc: Commissioners/Directors of Public Health
IAP Coordinators
Robin Stiles-Tice