



## Amended Immunization Regulation (902 KAR 2:060) Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

The Kentucky Immunization Program has received many questions about the recent changes to the Kentucky "Immunization Regulation, i.e., 902 KAR 2:060 Immunization schedules for attending child day care centers, certified family child care homes, other licensed facilities which care for children, preschool programs, and public and private primary and secondary schools, (<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/kar/902/002/060.htm>). Answers for some of the most Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are listed below:

**1. What age/grade entry will Hepatitis A be a requirement? The release stated age 12 months through age 18 years of age. Is everyone now REQUIRED?**

Two doses of hepatitis A (HepA) vaccine will be required for all children aged 19 months through 18 years who attend daycare, primary and secondary school beginning on or after July 1, 2018 for the 2018-2019 school year. Children aged 12 months through 18 months will require one dose of HepA vaccine. Providers should now catch-up children aged two years and older to assure hepatitis A immunity.

**2. Do we have to recall Children who have just had shots but did not have hepatitis A during recent school physicals? Yes, children will need to complete hepatitis A immunizations prior to the start of the 2018-2019 school year to attend school. Hepatitis A vaccine is administered as a 2 doses series with a minimum of 6 months between doses.**

**3. Where do we find the signature on the new certificate printed from the Kentucky Immunization Registry? The amended regulation does not require a signature on the official Immunization Certificate when printed from the Kentucky Immunization Registry.**

**4. What is new about the declination form/ Religious exemptions? The amended regulation provides for a new process to obtain a religious exemption from required school-entry immunizations and requires a written sworn statement for religious exemptions for these immunizations. The regulation eliminates the previous requirement of a provider to obtain a religious exemption certificate. The regulation now allows a parent or guardian to obtain the Commonwealth of Kentucky Parent or Guardian's Declination on Religious Grounds to Required Immunizations form online, check the immunizations that they object to on religious grounds, and sign the form before a notary public. The completed and notarized**

declination form shall be submitted at the time of enrollment in a childcare facility or school.

- 5. Does the local health department nurse still need to provide counseling and documentation on the IMM-2 form when a parent requests a Religious Exemption Certificate? Can we just instruct them to print the online form? The declination form provides the suggested education. When a parent or guardian is declining all vaccinations and the child has no vaccination history:**
- Refer the parent to the Kentucky Immunization Program or Department of Education Websites to print the form, or provide a copy in the office
  - Document that Commonwealth of Kentucky Parent or Guardian's Declination on Religious Grounds to Required Immunization form was given to the parent on the IMM-2.
  - Document on the IMM-2 when a parent is recommended to print the online form and not directly given the Commonwealth of Kentucky Parent or Guardian's Declination on Religious Grounds to Required immunization form.
  - Education by LHD nurses may include that any notary public in Kentucky can notarize the Commonwealth of Kentucky Parent or Guardian's Declination on Religious Grounds to Required Immunization form
  - Education by LHD nurses may include that, per the regulation, this form is the only form a school needs if a child has no shot history.
- 6. When a parent is only refusing a specific vaccine or child has a prior immunization history, the local health department nurse will need to:**
- Print a certificate,
  - Mark the religious objections box and document on the IMM-2 and may give the declination form to the parent or refer them to the online form.
  - Education by LHD nurses may include that the parent/guardian will take the completed, signed, and notarized declination form and immunization certificate to school.
  - Education by LHD nurses may include that a handwritten certificate, or a certificated from a medical provider or healthcare facility EMR or printed from KYIZ needs to accompany the declination when the child has received one or more vaccinations.

**7. Do I need to complete a Commonwealth of Kentucky Parent or Guardian's Declination on Religious Grounds to Required Immunizations if it is not against my religion but that I just do not believe in immunizations?**

- The Kentucky immunization regulation does not permit philosophical exemptions to immunizations. Kentucky only has medical or religious exemptions to immunizations.

**8. Does a provider's EMR certificate have to look like KYIR certificate? Can they keep using the same ones from before as long as new vaccines are included? Providers can continue to use what they used in the past as long as their printed certificate includes the new required immunizations and meets the minimum requirements for an electronically produced certificate as described in the amended regulation:**

- Child's name and birthdate,
- Parent or guardian's name,
- Address of the child including street, city, state, and Zip Code,
- Vaccines administered with dates, expiration date,
- Providers name with provider's address and telephone number, and printed name and ink or electronic signature of Doctor, RN, LPN, or designee, and date signed.

**9. Where can I print a Certificate or Declination form?**

New versions of forms, effective June 21, 2017, are located on the following Websites:

- The Kentucky Immunization Program  
<http://chfs.ky.gov/dph/epi/Immunization.htm>
- The Kentucky Department of Education  
<http://education.ky.gov/districts/SHS/Pages/Immunization-Information.aspx>

**10. How does a person tell if the immunization certificate was printed from the Kentucky Immunization Registry instead of a provider or healthcare system EMR?**

- A Certificate if printed from the Kentucky Immunization Registry will have the Kentucky State seal at the top
- The signature line has been replaced with a citation of the regulation
- The certificate has a statement that it was printed from the Registry.

## 11. Answers to Common Questions about certificates printed from the Kentucky Immunization Registry:

- Only valid doses print on the KYIR version of the official immunization certificate. Invalid doses will not appear and do not count towards being up to date.
- The official immunization certificate is for school entry and follows the regulation. A provider or registered KYIR user can print the Immunization Record available in KYIR under the reports/training module. This record displays all vaccine doses that the patient has ever received including influenza and travel vaccines. Some clinics already give this record to parents/guardians when issuing Official Certificates for them to keep/take with them in case they move or go to a new provider.
- An updated video is available that shows how to print the new certificate from KYIR. This video is also available in the reports/training module in KYIR: <https://youtu.be/BD7-eTcNsEY>

### Patient

Immunization Record ←

IZ History/Risk/Recommendations

Official Immunization Certificate

Patient Administrative Record

Vaccine Documentation/Consent Form

- DPH will add the second dose of MenACWY and the 2-dose Hepatitis A vaccine series to the official immunization certificate that prints from the Kentucky Immunization Registry as soon as changes can be made, but these new immunizations are not required until the 2018-2019 school year.
- Only an official state produced certificate can be printed with the state seal.
- A certificate printed from a provider or health system EMR does not need to match the size, orientation, or format of the certificate printed from the Kentucky Immunization Registry. An electronically produced certificate needs to contain the data elements listed in the regulation.
- An immunization certificate printed from an EMR or a paper version of the certificate does require a signature. It is only the certificate printed from the Kentucky Immunization Registry that no longer requires a signature.

**12. What grades will have the certificate review for the 2017-2018 school year?**

- Review of kindergarten and sixth grade immunization certificates will be continued for the 2017-2018 school year. Due to delaying of the new immunization requirements for school-entry until the 2018-2019 school year, new grade (i.e., seventh, eleventh, and twelfth) certificate reviews will begin the fall of the 2018-2019 school year, and twelfth grade review will only occur for one year.

**13. Do homeschooled children need an immunization certificate?**

- Homeschooled children who participate in public or private school activities (i.e., attend one (1) or more in-school classes or to participate in sports or any school-sponsored extra-curricular activities) are required to have a current Commonwealth of Kentucky Certificate of Immunization Status and/or Commonwealth of Kentucky Parent or Guardian's Declination on Religious Grounds to Required Immunizations on file at the school in which the child is participating.

**14. Are all the shots on the new Commonwealth of Kentucky Certificate of Immunization Status required for school entry?**

- No. The Kentucky Immunization Program listed all of the ACIP recommended immunizations on the new Commonwealth of Kentucky Certificate of Immunization Status rather than only the immunizations required for school entry. Influenza, Rotavirus, HPV, Men B, and Pneumococcal (PPSV23) are immunizations not required for school entry.

**15. What are the directions on finding the expiration date and selecting reason the certificate is not up to date?**

The expiration date appears just under the box that contains all of the dates of immunization. If the certificate is up to date, the computer does this:

- This child is current for immunizations until 06/02/2018, (14 days after the next shot is due) after which this certificate is no longer valid and a new certificate must be obtained.
- This child is not up-to-date at this time. This certificate is valid until \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, (14 days after the next shot is due) after which this certificate is no longer valid, and a new certificate must be obtained.

Reason child is not up-to-date:

- Provisional Status - Child is behind on required immunizations.
- Medical Exemption - The following immunizations are not medically indicated: \_\_\_\_\_

If Medical Exemption, can these vaccines be administered at a later date? No: \_\_\_ Yes: \_\_\_ Date: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

- Religious Objection

When the certificate is not up to date, the computer selects the provisional certificate and prints an expiration date that expires in 14 days:

(1) Provisional status may include children in exceptional circumstances (2) DTaP, DTP, or DT. (3) Not required at 2 years of age or more.

- This child is current for immunizations until \_\_/\_\_/\_\_, (14 days after the next shot is due) after which this certificate is no longer valid and a new certificate must be obtained.
- This child is not up-to-date at this time. This certificate is valid until 08/28/2017, (14 days after the next shot is due) after which this certificate is no longer valid and a new certificate must be obtained.

Reason child is not up-to-date:

- Provisional Status - Child is behind on required immunizations.
- Medical Exemption - The following immunizations are not medically indicated: \_\_\_\_\_

Then if the child is not up to date, the person printing out the certificate needs to check a box and complete the line if it is a medical exemption:

Reason child is not up-to-date:

**Provisional Status** - Child is behind on required immunizations.

**Medical Exemption** - The following immunizations are not medically indicated: \_\_\_\_\_

If Medical Exemption, can these vaccines be administered at a later date? No: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Religious Objection**

Pursuant to 902 KAR 2:060 § 6 (3) Signature not required if printed from KY WebIZ

This certificate should be presented to the school or facility in which the child intends to enroll and should be retained by the school or facility and filed with the child's health record.