



February, 2020

Dear Parents of **Class of 2021**,

This letter is to inform you that the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois State Board of Education are requiring proof of vaccination for all **CLASS OF 2021 - 12th grade students** for the meningococcal conjugate vaccine (meningitis). **Plan ahead to make sure your student's vaccines are up-to-date.**

Communication from the Illinois Department of Public Health:

“All students entering twelfth grade will be required to show proof of recent meningococcal conjugate vaccination (MCV). **Twelfth graders will need to show proof of receiving two doses unless the first dose was administered after 16 years of age.** In this case, **only one dose after 16 years of age is required.** This vaccination will prevent your student from a severe form of bacterial meningitis as well as other illness caused by this bacterium.”

Some students may have already received a dose of this vaccine since it has been recommended for various populations in the recent past. If you believe that your student received a second dose of the MCV during a routine doctor visit, please provide verification/proof of vaccination as listed below from her provider showing that she received a second dose of the meningococcal conjugate vaccine.

**Please submit a copy of your student's updated Child Health form supporting the fact that she received the Meningitis Vaccine at a doctor's visit or submit one of the following....**

⇒ **Documentation accepted as complying with the requirement for students entering 12<sup>th</sup> grade includes any one of following information:**

- A letter or note signed by your health care provider identifying the date the MCV was administered.
- A printout from your provider's electronic medical record (EMR) that indicates the date the vaccine was administered.
- Current Certificate of Child Health Examination form, specifying the date the MCV was administered.
- For religious exceptions, please complete the “Religious Exemption” form with the appropriate signatures as described on the form.
- If the vaccine is medically contraindicated for your student, a note from her provider must be provided to the school.

In addition to your health care provider, many local health departments and pharmacies offer the MCV vaccine. **“Students without adequate proof of vaccination will be subject to exclusion from classes as described in the school code of Illinois.”**

Due to Illinois State Board of Education reporting / compliance requirements, all **twelfth grade students must submit proof of recent meningococcal conjugate vaccination (MCV), as described above, on or before, October 15, 2020.** Unfortunately, if a student fails to submit the required proof of vaccination, she will not be allowed to attend classes per the requirements from the Illinois State Board of Education. We urge you to attend to this as soon as possible over the summer months in order to avoid any delay in submitting the required information in the fall.

Thank you! We appreciate your cooperation in this Illinois State Board of Education matter. If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact Mary Daniel at 847-824-6900 x 235 or [daniel@willowsacademy.org](mailto:daniel@willowsacademy.org).

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