

## Health Care Provider Updates for the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form

### BACKGROUND

- All Illinois children are required to have a physical health examination within one year prior to entering school:
  - Before the date of entering school (including nursery school, pre-K programs, etc.) and students transferring from another state or country.
  - Before the date of entering kindergarten or first grade.
  - Before the date of entering sixth grade.
  - Before the date of entering ninth grade.
- This requirement is for all public, private, and parochial schools. The Certificate of Child Health Examination Form is the form health care providers complete for the required physical health examinations. The health examination is valid within one year prior to entering school.
- Note the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form is not the same form as an interscholastic sports examination. The Certificate of Child Health Examination Form may be accepted as proof of examination for interscholastic sports if the statement regarding participation in interscholastic sports is completed by the health care provider.
- The Certificate of Child Health Examination Form is available in both English and Spanish on the Illinois Department of Public Health School Health Program [website](#).

### NEW CHANGES

- Starting January 1, 2024, the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form includes a space for the health care provider to record whether or not a Social-Emotional and Developmental Screening was conducted. Should this part of the form not be filled out, the student may enroll in or remain enrolled in school. The form will only indicate whether a screening was conducted and will NOT contain results of screening.
- After January 1, 2024, the newest version of the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form should be utilized for physical health examinations for children (as outlined in the first bullet point of this document). If you or your office utilize a Certificate of Child Health Examination Form date stamped 11/2015 after January 1, 2024, this form may be accepted by schools until January 1, 2025. As noted above, the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form is valid within one year prior to entering school.
- Your clinical practice may update any electronic versions of the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form in your electronic health record (EHR) system after January 1, 2024. IDPH does not require a review of the update for your EHR system. If your practice has questions about the EHR implementation of the changes, contact the IDPH School Health Program at [DPH.SEL@illinois.gov](mailto:DPH.SEL@illinois.gov).
- After January 1, 2024, if the Social-Emotional or Developmental Screening portion of the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form is not completed, a health care provider affiliated with the student's school (with parent/guardian consent) **may** offer social-emotional or developmental screening to the student.

- The minimum qualifications of a person who may administer a social-emotional or developmental screening to a child as a result of the screening not being recorded on the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form must be the following:
  - A licensed clinical social worker, or
  - a licensed clinical psychologist, or
  - a licensed physician, or
  - a licensed advanced practiced registered nurse, or
  - a licensed physician assistant.
- Note that, separate from what is recorded on the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form, many schools in Illinois offer social-emotional, mental health, or behavioral health screenings to students universally or as needed as part of their own policy and procedure. Screenings of this nature offered to students by schools are not governed by IDPH or the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form and are not subject to administration by the persons listed above. These in-school screening tools are often self-administered by the student or are administered by parent or school personnel.
- Social-emotional or developmental screening results shall not be recorded on the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form. Screening results collected by a health care provider may, with the written consent of the parent or guardian, be shared with the local school authority.
- If you offer screening in your office, validated social-emotional and developmental screening tools that may be used for this purpose can be found on the IDPH School Health Program home page at: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/life-stages-populations/maternal-child-family-health-services/school-health.html>.
- If your office would like to request having an additional validated social-emotional or developmental screening tool added to the IDPH School Health Program list, email the IDPH School Health Program at [DPH.SEL@illinois.gov](mailto:DPH.SEL@illinois.gov). The required elements to submit with the request of adding a validated social-emotional or developmental screening tool may be found on the IDPH School Health Program home page at: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/life-stages-populations/maternal-child-family-health-services/school-health.html>.

## HOW TO GET INFORMATION

- Please reference the Illinois Department of Public Health website to ensure you are using the most up-to-date approved form at : <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/life-stages-populations/maternal-child-family-health-services/school-health.html>. Other organizations or agencies may link to the IDPH and Illinois State Board of Education website to access the forms. The newest revised forms must be used after January 1, 2025.
- You may find the updated version of the Certificate of Child Health Examination Form at: [child-health-exam-form-revised-01-31-2024.pdf \(illinois.gov\)](#)
- For additional questions, email the IDPH School Health Program at [DPH.SEL@illinois.gov](mailto:DPH.SEL@illinois.gov).