



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

August 18, 2025

Dear School Administrator/Immunization Compliance Coordinator:

We hope you are having a safe and healthy school year. It is time for the submission of the **2025-2026 Preliminary Immunization Compliance Report**. This submission is due by **September 19, 2025, but can be completed before this date**. This compliance assessment must be completed online and can be accessed through the following link: [2025-2026 Preliminary School Compliance Form](#)

Please note: Once you start completing the online form, you will not be able to save your work and return to it later. We have included a copy of the paper form to assist you in putting the information together prior to completing the online version.

Please verify the information on the compliance form for accuracy. Tally and complete all information in each section of the compliance assessment. If you are reporting a child enrolled with a Medical/Religious Exemption Form (Form 122) or Temporary Certificate of Immunization Compliance Form (Form 121), a copy of the form must be attached to the Preliminary Compliance Report for verification. There is a section at the bottom of the assessment to upload these documents.

If your submission is incorrect, do not submit an additional form. Please call our office for assistance.

MSDH is requesting a thorough review of a subset of MIIX validated 121s. The following documents are enclosed to help guide you through this year's assessment.

1. Updated 2025-26 school year fact sheet for details of school compliance requirements that includes the MSDH policy established pursuant to state law (**please pay close attention to the highlighted information**).
2. Letter sent to all Superintendents/Administrators
3. Worksheet for the 2025-26 Preliminary Compliance Report.

Thank you for your support to protect the children of Mississippi against vaccine preventable diseases. If you need further assistance, please contact Sarah Mendez or William Guy, with MSDH Office of Immunizations, at (601) 576-7751.

Sincerely,

Amanda P. Netadj, MPPA
Director, Office of Immunizations

William Guy, MSN, RN
Nurse Manager, Office of Immunizations

Cc: Daniel Edney, MD, FACP, FASAM
Renia Dotson, MD, MPH
Meg Pearson, PharmD, MS

Enclosures

**MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
IMMUNIZATION SCHOOL COMPLIANCE
FACT SHEET 2025-26 School Year**

Updated (07/03/25)

Due to several changes, please review this document before completing the 2025-26 Preliminary/Final School Compliance Reports.

Each student must have one, or both (for Medical and Religious Exemptions), of the following forms on file at the beginning of the school year:

1. **A Certificate of Immunization Compliance (Form 121; MIIX validated or signed).**
2. **A Certificate of Medical/Religious Exemption (Form 122), accompanied by a Form 121 signed by the State Epidemiologist or Deputy State Epidemiologist.**

Any student without the appropriate forms must be excluded until the proper form is obtained.

Form 121s signed by a physician, nurse, or MIIX validated should be accepted by schools as an official Mississippi State Department of Health Immunization Compliance form. MIIX validated forms will include a unique identifier number at the top right corner of the page. All 121s are watermarked with the MSDH logo. You will also find the MSDH logo in the bottom right corner of the form. (Version Revised 5/18/21)

Please note that the Certificate of Medical/Religious Exemption (Form 122) will be signed by the State Epidemiologist or the Deputy State Epidemiologist. **Handwritten and signed 121 forms may still be accepted.**

MSDH's public facing system (MyIR) allows parents to print the Form 121 if immunizations are up to date. The computer-generated 121 Form will denote MIIX Validated on the signature line. The MIIX validated forms should be accepted by schools as an official Mississippi State Department of Health Immunization Compliance form.

Due to a programming error, Form 121s being printed from MyIR Mobile are not always matching the Form 121s being printed from MIIX. We are seeing forms printed from MyIR Mobile showing a child is not compliant, yet MIIX shows they are compliant and will validate the child's compliance status appropriately.

We are also seeing Form 121s validating children for K4-6th grade with only 3 DTaP. MIIX is also showing the 4th dose as past due for these students.

If you encounter a discrepancy such as these, please contact our main office at (601) 576-7751 for assistance. Your patience is greatly appreciated as we rectify these issues

The Mississippi Code Annotated, Title 41, Sections 41-23-37 as amended, vests authority in the State Health Officer to specify immunization practices considered best for the control of vaccine preventable diseases. The following immunizations are required for attendance in Mississippi schools:

- **Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus Vaccine** – Five doses of diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis vaccine are required (4 doses if the 4th dose was received after the 4th birthday).
- **Polio Vaccine** – Four doses of polio vaccine are required (3 doses if the 3rd dose was received after the 4th birthday).
- **MMR Vaccine** – Two doses of MMR are required. (First dose must be on or after the 1st birthday).
- **Hepatitis B Vaccine** – **Effective August 1999**, three doses of Hepatitis B are required.
- **Varicella Vaccine** – **Effective August 1, 2007**, children entering school for the first time will be required to have two doses of the Varicella Vaccine (chickenpox vaccine) or a history of chickenpox.
- **Tdap Vaccine** – Children age 7-9 years who receive Tdap should receive the routine Tdap dose at age 11-12 years. Children age 10 years who receive Tdap do not need to receive the routine Tdap dose at age 11-12 years.

Transfer Students - In-state transfer students should have a compliance form in their cumulative folder. Out-of- state transfer students must present one of the forms listed above.

Form Issuance - A valid Certificate of Immunization Compliance must be issued by the county health department, private physician or MIIX Validated. The Certificate of Medical or Religious Exemption must be approved, and signed, by the State Epidemiologist or Deputy State Epidemiologist.

Form Filing and Review - The Certificate of Immunization Compliance Form and the Certificate of Medical or Religious Exemption must be kept in a separate file for auditing purposes and, if necessary, disease outbreak control. All time-limited forms should be reviewed periodically to ensure each child receives the required immunizations prior to the expiration date listed on the form.

Compliance Deadlines - The Preliminary Compliance Report is due **September 19, 2025**, and the Final Compliance Report is due **December 12, 2025**. To ensure each child is following immunization requirements, schools are obligated to file compliance forms. Compliance forms should be filed in a timely manner at the beginning of the school year.

Dual Exemption Students – **Students are allowed to have both a medical exemption and a religious exemption. DO NOT COUNT BOTH EXEMPTIONS, ONLY THE MOST RECENT.**

Compliance Worksheet**2025-2026***Code (State Use Only)*

County: _____ From (Public Health District): _____
 School: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ Principal: _____
 School Year: 23-24 Preliminary

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5	Column 6	Column 7
Grade	Number Complete Certificate of Immunization Compliance Form 121	Number Temporary Certificate of Immunization Compliance Form 121	Number Medical Exemption Form 122 *	Number Religious Exemption Form 122 *	Number Tentatively Enrolled Transfer (In State Only)	Number Enrolled Without Forms	Total Enrollment
Special Education							
K4							
K5							
1 ST							
2 ND							
3 RD							
4 TH							
5 TH							
6 TH							
7 TH							
8 TH							
9 TH							
10 th							
11 TH							
12 TH							
TOTAL							

*Completed By**Signature of Principal**Date Signed*

This report will be digitally signed in DocuSign and both signers will receive a completed copy. Please maintain a copy for school records.

A Certificate of Immunization (Form 121) is required for all students grades K4 - 12 for the school year. Students in grades 2 - 6 who had a Complete Certificate of Compliance **do not need new certificates this year**; however, students who had a Temporary Certificate of Compliance may need a new certificate (please review the expiration date).

Students who **MUST** have new Certificate of Compliance (Form 121):

- Students enrolling in kindergarten or first grade who have not previously been issued a certificate.
- Students enrolling in a Mississippi School for the first time.
- Students entering the 7th grade.

***Please attach copies of all Medical and Religious Exemptions to this form.**

***Tdap is a school requirement for all students entering 7th grade.**

MSDH reminds the schools to report your numbers as they are at this time. You may have students waiting on Religious Exemptions. If they are enrolled without forms, please place them in that category.

ALL CERTIFICATES OF IMMUNIZATION COMPLIANCE AND CERTIFICATES OF MEDICAL /RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION MUST BE ON FILE IN THE SCHOOL AND SHOULD NOT BE RETURNED TO THE PARENT.

Column Definitions

COLUMN 1: NUMBER WITH CERTIFICATE OF IMMUNIZATION COMPLIANCE (FORM 121):

The number of students per grade with a complete Certificates of Immunization Compliance.

COLUMN 2: NUMBER WITH TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE OF IMMUNIZATION COMPLIANCE (FORM 121):

The number of students per grade with Temporary Certificates of Compliance issued to them with an expiration date scheduled to expire. **If the expiration date has past, the form is not valid.**

COLUMN 3: NUMBER WITH MEDICAL EXEMPTION (FORM 122):

The number of students per grade with a Medical Exemption form. **This form MUST be signed by the State Health Officer or Designee.**

COLUMN 4: NUMBER WITH RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION (FORM 122):

The number of students per grade with a Religious Exemption form.

COLUMN 5: NUMBER TENTATIVELY ENROLLED BY TRANSFER (IN-STATE ONLY):

The number of students per grade tentatively enrolled by transfer FROM A MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL. This includes children who did not present a certificate at registration and whose cumulative total records have been requested but have not been received. If the certificate is not present when the folder is received, the student **MUST** withdraw until a certificate is presented.

COLUMN 6: NUMBER WITHOUT FORMS:

The number of students per grade allowed to enroll and attend but who have not presented a form to school officials and are not in compliance with immunization requirements.

COLUMN 7: TOTAL ENROLLMENT.

The Total number of students enrolled by grade. This number will be automatically calculated when the school submits each of the above totals. Schools are responsible for reviewing their enrollment records for current attendance to confirm the totals match.

Please contact the Office of Immunization at 601-576-7751 with questions.



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

July 20, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: Public and Private K-12 School Leadership

From: Kathryn Taylor, MD
State Epidemiologist

Subject: Religious Exemptions

In consideration of the court ordered religious exemption process that began July 15, 2023 and the immediacy of the start of schools across the state of Mississippi, under the authority of the State Health Officer and according to Miss. Code Ann. § 41-23-37, I am granting a period of ninety (90) days from the first day of school (opening of the fall term) for schools to ensure all enrolled students have a certificate of compliance (121 form or 121 with attached 122 form) on file.

Children, regardless of documentation of vaccination or exemption, may be enrolled and attend school during this 90 day time frame in order to prevent loss of educational opportunities. Each child after the 90th day of school must have a certificate of compliance on file with the school they are registered to attend.

This memorandum aligns with the following Mississippi Code Section:

“It shall be the responsibility of the person in charge of each school to enforce the requirements for immunization. Any child not in compliance at the end of ninety (90) days from the opening of the fall term must be suspended until in compliance, unless the health officer shall attribute the delay to lack of supply of vaccine or some other such factor clearly making compliance impossible.”

Miss. Code Ann. § 41-23-37.