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Date: July 13, 2016

To: Wisconsin School Administrators, School Nurses, and School Immunization Compliance Managers

Cc: Local Health Departments, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

From: Stephanie Schauer, PhD, Immunization Program Manager

Re: Assessing and ensuring compliance with the Student Immunization Law, Fall 2016

In an effort to provide more clear and concise directions to schools and in order to gain a fuller picture of immunization rates among students, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), in collaboration with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), has made several changes to the school booklet materials that describe the actions schools must take to assess, ensure and report compliance with the Student Immunization Law. These changes are outlined below.

- 1) **Starting school year 2016-2017, the school booklet materials will be found online only.** Booklets will no longer be mailed to schools. Instead, please visit the DHS website to download the materials: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/reqs.htm>. In August, a postcard will be mailed to schools to remind them that the materials can be found online.
- 2) **Instructions for schools have been updated to be more clear and concise.** The timeline of required school actions has been revised and is now accompanied by a flowchart. Additionally, several materials have been updated to clarify that laboratory evidence of immunity is acceptable to meet the minimum immunization requirements for certain diseases.
- 3) **School compliance results from the previous school year are now online.** Schools/districts should review their compliance results from the previous school year using the links below. Public school districts and private schools with <99% of students in compliance during the previous school year are required to exclude noncompliant students during this coming school year.
Public districts: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/compliance-public-districts.pdf>
Private schools: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/compliance-private-schools.pdf>
- 4) **We are in stage 1 of improving the School Report to Local Health Department.** Eventually, in order to gain a fuller picture of immunization rates among Wisconsin students, this report will be changed to collect aggregate compliance data for each vaccine. For the 2016-2017 school year, however, only small changes have been made. The report is now online and is available here: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/f0/f04002.pdf>. Schools now need to include their DPI LEA (district) and school codes on the form. Instructions for finding these codes are found on the report. In Section C, there is a new row 9 that collects the number of students who have received no required immunizations and have waivers for all of these vaccines. Infinite Campus, Skyward, PowerSchool, RECIN and the Wisconsin Immunization Registry have been notified of these changes. Please contact

them if you need technical assistance with their software to complete the School Report to Local Health Department.

On August 25, 2016 at 2:00pm, DHS and DPI will be hosting a webinar to discuss these changes in more detail. Please use this link to attend: <https://livestream.com/accounts/14059632/events/5766391>

We thank you for your continued efforts to ensure all school children in Wisconsin are protected against vaccine-preventable diseases. We look forward to a continued partnership with you. If you have questions, please call or email the Immunization Program representative in your region (see below) or email the Immunization Program central office at DHSImmProgram@wi.gov.

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