Hawaii's 7th Grade Physical Examination Requirement Fact Sheet

Introduction

In the interest of the health of Hawaii's youth, there is a new requirement for children entering 7th grade to complete a physical examination, also called a well-child visit.

A well-child visit is provided by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse.*

A well-child visit creates a safe environment for youth to talk to their healthcare professional about health and wellness, and can help to address and prevent health-related issues like obesity, smoking, stress, and maintaining a current immunization schedule.

What Do I Need to Know?

Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, all students entering the seventh grade must complete a physical examination as required by state law (HRS §302A-1159).

A child can receive his or her physical examination within twelve (12) months before the first day of instruction. The first day of instruction for a majority of middle and intermediate schools will be Monday, August 7, 2017.

Parents should submit a completed Form-14 (Student Health Record Rev. 2010) to the school when they register their child for seventh grade.

Does a Form Need to be Completed?

Yes. On the day of your child's physical examination appointment, please provide the primary care provider with a copy of the Form-14 (Student Health Record Rev. 2010) to complete during the visit. Submit the completed Form 14 to your child's school when he/she registers for seventh grade.

Link to Form-14:

https://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/DOE%20Forms/Enrollment/StudentHealthRecord.pdf

Why is it Important?

Adolescence is a time of tremendous physical, emotional, and social change. During this time, youth can develop numerous health issues, many of which are preventable. A well-child visit is an opportune time and safe environment for children to talk with their healthcare professional about health and wellness issues.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children and youth have a well-child visit with their primary care provider at least once a year.

* Includes naturopathic physicians as specified in HRS§455-8

What Type of Medical Practitioner May Conduct a Physical Examination?

A physical examination is provided by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse.*

Who Will Cover the Physical Examination Costs?

Well-child visits are an annually covered benefit, currently provided under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA).

<u>What Immunizations Are Required for 7th Grade Attendance in Addition to the Physical Examination?</u>

In addition to meeting the new 7th grade physical examination requirement, Hawaii State Law also requires all students to meet the immunization requirements. Talk with your primary care provider about these immunizations and others that are routinely recommended for adolescents.

More information about school immunization requirements can be found on the Hawaii Department of Health website: <u>http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/school-health-requirements/</u>

<u>What Happens If a Child Does Not Receive a Physical Examination Before Entry into 7th</u> <u>Grade?</u>

If a child does not receive a physical examination by the first day of 7th grade, he or she will still be allowed to attend school. However, the Department of Education will provide the student's name and contact information to the Department of Health, who will follow up with the parents during the year to encourage and assist in scheduling a well-child visit for the child.

