

**IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS:
AFFIDAVIT OF RELIGIOUS OBJECTION**

Child's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
(Last, First, Middle Initial)

Parent(s) / Guardian(s) Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I solemnly swear that the Georgia Immunization Requirement is against my religious beliefs and practices and I will not have my child immunized.

I understand that in the event of an epidemic or threatened epidemic by any of the seven (7) preventable diseases, my child will be excluded from school until the epidemic or threat no longer exists.

PLEASE NOTE: According to Georgia Rules and Regulations Department of Human Resources : Public Health : Immunization of Children as a Prerequisite to Admission to Schools and Other Facilities (290-5-4-.07 Epidemics, Amended) states:

"When in the opinion of the Department of Human Resources or local Board of Health an epidemic or the threat of an epidemic exists, said Department or Board shall immediately, by the most expedient means notify the governing authorities of all schools and facilities within the affected area. When the threat of epidemic exists, the health authority may require immunization for those who object on the grounds of religious belief, or may alternatively prohibit attendance at schools or facilities within the area by unimmunized children." (See Exclusion Procedures on pages 2 and 3.)

Signature of Parent(s) / Guardian(s)

Sworn to and subscribed before me on

this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary Signature / Expiration Date

The original form should be placed in the student's permanent record folder and a copy provided to the school nurse.

EXCLUSION PROCEDURES

Control of Vaccine Preventable Diseases* for the School Population

Case Exclusion

Disease	Exclusion
Hepatitis A	Exclude until one week after jaundice and diarrhea has stopped.
Measles (Rubeola)	Exclude until 4 days after onset of rash.
Mumps	Exclude until 5 days after onset of parotid gland swelling.
Pertussis	Exclude until 5 days of appropriate antibiotic therapy.
Rubella (German Measles)	Exclude for 7 days after onset of rash.
Varicella (Chicken Pox)	Exclude until all lesions have dried and crusted over.
Other Vaccine preventable illnesses (i.e. Polio, Small Pox)	Exclude until guidance from Georgia Division of Public Health and Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Additional Prevention Measures:

Measles (Rubeola)

In a school with a measles outbreak, all persons who are not immune to measles should be vaccinated; this includes all students and their siblings and all school personnel born during or after 1957 who cannot provide documentation that they have received two doses of measles-containing vaccine on or after their first birthday or cannot provide other evidence of measles immunity (such as serologic testing).

Persons who cannot readily provide documentation of measles immunity should be vaccinated or excluded from the school or other institution.

Persons receiving second doses, as well as previously unvaccinated persons receiving their first dose as part of the outbreak control program may be immediately readmitted to school.

Persons who continue to be exempted from or who refuse measles vaccination should be excluded from the school until 21 days after the onset of rash in the last case of measles.

Mumps

In a school with a mumps outbreak, all persons who are not immune to mumps should be vaccinated. According to ACIP recommendations published in 2006, acceptable presumptive evidence of mumps immunity includes one of the following:

- a) written documentation of receipt of one or more doses of a mumps-containing vaccine administered on or after the first birthday for preschool-aged children and adults not at high risk, and two doses of mumps-containing vaccine for school-aged children and adults at high risk (healthcare workers, international travelers, and students at post-high school educational institutions);
- b) laboratory evidence of immunity;
- c) birth before 1957; or
- d) documentation of physician-diagnosed mumps.

Persons who do not meet the above criteria are considered susceptible. Once vaccinated, students can be readmitted to school.

Persons who refuse mumps vaccination should be excluded until at least 26 days after the onset of parotitis in the last person with mumps in the affected school.

Pertussis

In schools with a pertussis outbreak, all students who are not up-to-date with their pertussis immunizations are considered susceptible. These persons, if asymptomatic, must be started on antibiotic treatment and brought up to date on vaccination (if possible) and may immediately return to school.

If susceptible persons are symptomatic, they must be immediately excluded and may not return until 5 days of the appropriate antibiotic is taken or until a negative test (PCR or culture) is provided to the local health department.

If antibiotic is not started (for both symptomatic and asymptomatic cases) they must be excluded from school for 21 days.

Rubella (German Measles)

In schools with a rubella outbreak, all persons at risk who cannot readily provide laboratory evidence of immunity or a documented history of vaccination on or after their first birthday should be considered susceptible and should be vaccinated if no contraindications exist.

All persons who have been exempted from rubella vaccination for medical, religious, or other reasons should be excluded from attendance. Exclusion should continue until 3 weeks after the onset of rash of the last reported case-patient in the outbreak setting.

Varicella (Chicken Pox)

Persons without evidence of varicella immunity or who have received one dose of vaccine can be referred to their healthcare provider for vaccination. Two-dose vaccination is recommended for optimal protection during outbreaks involving preschool-aged children.

Exclusion is also recommended for exposed persons without evidence of immunity to varicella. Exclusion is required for the duration of the period of communicability (i.e., from 10 days after the first case until 21 days after the last case in outbreaks). Children vaccinated during the outbreak can return to school immediately after being vaccinated.

Polio, Small Pox or Other Illnesses

Fulton and DeKalb County Public Health will work with the Georgia Division of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in order to establish exclusion procedures.

***Outbreaks – cases of illness which are above the expected numbers. The numbers are confirmed and defined by the local health department.**

Note: The above guidelines may become more stringent based on the outbreak situation.