Immunizations, Tests, and Inoculations **#7060**

Any student enrolling in a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas for the first time, when such enrollment is also the student's first enrollment in any school in Kansas, shall present to the principal or designee certification that the student has completed, is in the process of completing, or is exempt from completing tests and inoculations as are deemed necessary by Kansas's Secretary of the Department of Health and Environment. See K.S.A. 72-6261 (Kansas Statutes Related to School Immunizations Requirements) and K.A.R. 28-1-20 (Immunizations: Schools, Child Care Facilities, and Preschool or Child Care Programs Operated by a School). Certification forms are available on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment website.

Prior to admission to and attendance at school, a parent or guardian must provide to the principal or designee the necessary documentation for one of the following:

1. **Completion:** Certification from a physician or local health department that the student has received such tests and inoculations as are deemed necessary;

2. **In-Progress:** Certification from a physical or local health department that the student has received the most recent appropriate inoculations in all required series; or

3. **Exemption** documentation in compliance with #7060.1.

Students that have received the most recent inoculation in a series may enroll or remain enrolled while completing the requirement inoculations. Failure to certify completion of these tests and inoculations, failure to complete catch-up doses, or failure to complete the in-progress inoculation services in a timely manner shall be deemed non-compliance with this policy.

Upon written notice, the governing authority, superintendent, or the principal reserves the right to deny admittance or exclude a student from school attendance for failure to comply with this policy until the student is in compliance. Before making a decision regarding school admittance or exclusion, principals shall consult with the superintendent of Catholic Schools.

Written notice to parents of non-compliance with this policy will include the reason for the student's exclusion from school attendance, notify the parents that the student will continue to be excluded from attendance until the student has complied with the requirements of this policy, and inform the parent or guardian of their right to request a hearing regarding this policy.

Circumstances involving students who are unable to provide immediate certification under policy #7060 due to homelessness or are in the household of an active duty military member will be addressed in accordance with state and federal law.

Exemptions from Immunizations, Tests, or Inoculations #7060.1

As an alternative to providing certification of tests or inoculations under #7060, students may request exemption based on one of the following:

1. **Annual Medical Exemption:** A parent or guardian must submit a written statement signed by a licensed physician stating the physical condition of the child to be such that the tests or inoculations would seriously endanger the life or health of the child. Such written and signed medical statement must be submitted annually. Other medical exemptions may be considered if the student provides a written statement that is signed by a medical professional and the local, state, or federal public health authorities determine there is no ongoing public health emergency; or

2. **Religious Exemption:** A parent or guardian must submit a written statement signed by one parent or guardian that the child is an adherent of a religious denomination whose religious teachings are opposed to such tests or inoculations.

The parent or guardian must submit the medical or religious exemption documentation to the principal or designee for review. The principal or designee will respond to the exemption in writing and notify the parent or guardian of their right to request a hearing regarding this policy if the requested exemption is not approved.