

S.B. 658

RE: S.B. 658
SUBJECT: Schools

Senate Bill 658 becomes effective July 1, 2021. This bill prohibits local school boards from requiring COVID-19 vaccination for admittance or attendance, requiring vaccine passports, and from implementing a mask mandate for unvaccinated students. It also prohibits a mask mandate unless the local jurisdiction is subject to a state of emergency declared by the Governor.

- Section 1(E): Requires the State Department of Education (OSDE) to ensure every school district provides the following statement on their website and in any notice or publication provided to parents regarding immunization requests for attendance:

  "For school enrollment, a parent or guardian shall provide one of the following:

  1. *Current, up-to-date immunization records; or*
  2. *A completed and signed exemption form."*

- Section 2(A): Prohibits boards of education for public school districts and technology center districts, public and private universities, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the State Board of Education, and the State Board of Career and Technology Education from:

  - Requiring COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of admittance to or attendance of the school or institution;
  - Requiring a vaccine passport as a condition of admittance to or attendance of the school or institution; or
  - Implementing a mask mandate for students who have not been vaccinated against COVID-19.

- Section 2(B): Defines "vaccine passport" to mean documentation that an individual has been vaccinated against COVID-19.

- Section 2(C): Exempts any public or private healthcare setting from these requirements.

- Section 3(A): Allows local school districts and technology center districts to implement a mask mandate only under certain conditions.

- Section 3(A)(1): Allows a school board to mandate wearing of masks or any other medical device only after consultation with the local county or city-county health department and only if the board's area of jurisdiction is under a current state of emergency declared by the Governor.

- Section 3(A)(2): Requires the mandate to explicitly list the purpose for the mandate.

- Section 3(A)(3): Requires the mandate to reference the specific masks or medical devices that would meet the requirements of the mandate.

- Section 3(A)(4): Requires the mandate to be reconsidered at each regularly scheduled board meeting.

Should you have any questions related to this bill, please contact Mr. Ryan Pieper, Executive Director of Accreditation, at (405) 521-3335 or Ms. Carolyn Thompson, Chief of Government Affairs, at (405) 522-3520.

Amendment to: 70 O.S. § 1210.191
New law at: 70 O.S. § 1210.189, 1210.190
Helpful statutory reference: 61 O.S. § 327(A), 70 O.S. § 1210.192, Executive Order 2021-16