

HEALTH POLICY
RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Policy for General Health Examination Requirements

9.1: Purpose

The purpose of **General Health Examination Requirements and Screenings** is to identify and take appropriate actions with respect to disabilities and medical conditions of school children as soon as possible, so as to enable all children to obtain the fullest benefit of their educational opportunities and to identify and take appropriate action with respect to contagious or communicable diseases among students.

Physical Examinations By Primary Care Provider

(A) The school health program should encourage the performance of a physical examination as required in section 9.0 in the Rules and Regulations for School Health Programs. The physical exam will be performed by the student's own physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant whenever possible. Said health care provider shall record the results of the physical examination on health record forms approved by the Department of Public Health and provide a copy of this record containing the results of the examination and the physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner recommendations to the school.

(B) The Board of Trustees or board of health shall ensure that every student in the public schools be separately and carefully examined by a duly licensed physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant, as follows:

(1) Every student who has not been previously enrolled in a public or non-public school in this state shall have a medical history and physical examination completed. This examination shall be conducted in the 12 months preceding the date of school entry, but if not, it shall be completed within 6 months of school entry.

(2) A second general health examination and health clearance will be required upon entry to 7th grade. This general health examination may be performed during the 6th grade, but no later than 6 months after entry into 7th grade (9.1.1).

(3) Effective August 3, 2015, a third, general health examination and health clearance will be required upon entry to 12th grade. This general health examination shall be performed after the student turns 16, and no later than 6 months after the student enters the 12th grade (9.1.2).

(4) General health examinations shall be required prior to a student's participation in competitive athletics, on an annual basis.

(5) General health examinations shall be conducted by the student's primary care provider, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner.

A. If there is no evidence that the appropriate general health examination has been performed, the Rhode Island School for the Deaf shall make provisions for said examination by the end of the school year for which it is required.

B. No student shall be excluded from school for failure to provide documentation of a completion of a general examination.

(6) The Rhode Island School for the Deaf may require additional health examinations in order to ensure the mental and physical health of any child to participate in classroom, athletic or special activities sponsored or conducted by the school.
