

VIRGINIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

<i>TITLE: Physical and Dental Examination Requirements for Students</i>	POLICY NUMBER: SH05
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Policy Statement: The Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind requires each student to have an annual physical exam, tuberculosis screening, and dental exam. These requirements must be completed prior to enrollment at the VSDB.

12VAC35-46-840. Medical examinations and treatment.

Procedure:

1. Each student accepted to the VSDB must have a physical examination by or under the direction of a licensed healthcare provider within the preceding 12 months of admission. It is preferred that students have a physical examination in the 90 days prior to their admission to VSDB.
2. Physical exams that have exceeded the 90-day preference, but are less than one year old, will be reviewed by the Director of Student Health Services. The Director of Student Health Services may request that the VSDB contracted physician be consulted to review the student's physical and/or other medical reports prior to admission to maintain precise medical documentation. The VSDB contracted physician will provide a statement regarding acceptance and/or recommendations for follow-up treatment.
3. The VSDB nursing staff will notify parents of recommendations noted by the VSDB contract physician. Parents will be responsible for follow-up care such as recommended treatment, immunizations, and other examinations/referrals.
4. After admission, each student is required to have an annual physical exam, tuberculosis screening, and dental exam. These required annual exams are to be completed by the student's licensed healthcare provider. This will assist in identifying and maintaining the specific healthcare needs of each student.
5. Each physical examination report shall include:
 - a. Immunizations administered; Code of Virginia § 32.1-46(a) mandates the immunization requirements for all students attending school in Virginia. VSDB adheres to the immunization regulations for Virginia students.
 - i. Periodically, immunization requirements change; parents will be notified of these changes and will be required to provide written documentation of immunizations received.
 - ii. Code of Virginia § 22.1-271.2, C (i)(ii), provides for medical and religious exemptions from immunization requirements. Parents and/or physicians are responsible for providing proper documentation based on the exemption. The MCH 213G, Commonwealth of Virginia, School Entrance Health Form, specifies the documentation required for both medical and religious exemptions.

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- b. Vision exams. The VSDB nurses will perform vision screenings to any student enrolled, without having had one prior to, within 60 days of admission. Any abnormal findings at the time of the screening will be provided to the parent and a referral made for the student to have a vision exam by an eye specialist.
- c. Hearing exams. Hearing exams not performed by the examining healthcare provider will be done by the VSDB school audiologist for hearing impaired students. A VSDB nurse will perform audiometric screenings on visually impaired students within 60 days of admission. Any abnormal findings at the time of the screening will be referred to the VSDB school audiologist for follow up testing.
- d. All students must have an annual tuberculosis (TB) screening. A TST, tuberculosis skin test, is not indicated for everyone. The healthcare provider is responsible for completing this screening during the physical exam. VSDB nurses may also perform the screening with a parent, guardian, or adult student, if it was not completed at the time of the physical. Any student that does not pass the screening and needs further testing will be referred to their own healthcare provider and/or local health department for follow up.
- e. Students that require an EpiPen for severe allergic reactions must have an Anaphylaxis Emergency Action Plan completed and signed by their healthcare provider. This plan must document the specific allergy, the instructions for emergency treatment, and the parents/guardians must provide the emergency medication prescribed.
- f. Any student with a chronic health condition such as seizures, asthma, and/or diabetes is required to provide written orders from their healthcare provider. The healthcare provider should review and update orders annually or as needed for changes in care.
- g. Nutritional requirements and special diets. Students that require meals from home or additional servings during mealtimes must have an order from their healthcare provider. Students that have alternative feedings, such as g-tubes, must also have written orders completed by his or her healthcare provider regarding the amount, frequency, time, and training of unlicensed staff. These orders will be updated annually.
- h. Restrictions on physical activities. A healthcare provider may provide recommendations for adaptations to physical activities during and after school.
- i. Communicable disease assessment. If a child has a communicable disease, the VSDB nursing staff must be notified so that the health of other students and staff is not jeopardized. Refer to policy *SH08 Communicable Disease* for additional guidance.

- j. Mental health or psychiatric needs. Reports or treatment summaries should be provided if a student has a mental health or psychiatric illness to facilitate ongoing treatment or recommendations.

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- k. If indicated, the physical exam may contain results from lead or hemoglobin/hematocrit blood screenings.
 - l. Physical exams must be dated and signed by the healthcare provider completing the exam. Additionally, the healthcare provider's contact information, including the practice name, telephone number, and address should be completed.
6. VSDB employees who provide direct care to students will be informed of students' allergies, chronic health conditions, special diets, and any restrictions related to physical activity by VSDB Student Health Services.
7. Each student, age 4 and older, is required to have an annual dental examination performed by a licensed dentist.
- a. A written report must be provided by the student's parent.
 - b. Each dental report must be dated and signed by the dentist. The dentist's contact information, including the practice name, telephone number, and address should be completed.