



Title: **Communicable/Infectious Diseases**

Code: JLCC

Section: Section J: Students

By law, admission to school may be denied to any student diagnosed as having a disease or carrying a disease-causing agent whereby his or her attendance could be harmful to the welfare of other students. This includes any disease that poses an unacceptable risk of being communicated to others. Any decision to deny admission shall, however, be based upon reasonable medical judgment.

Communicable diseases may be divided into two categories, those that are readily transmissible in the school environment and those that are not. Readily transmissible diseases include but are not limited to: influenza, common colds, COVID-19, measles, active tuberculosis, chicken pox, whooping cough (pertussis) and other infections spread through respiration. Although the incidence of serious or life-threatening illnesses that are readily transmissible in the school environment is quite low, diseases that are transmitted by airborne droplet can pose a serious threat to the health of students and staff. There are other serious or life-threatening illnesses that are caused by blood-borne or sexually transmitted infectious agents, such as acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) or hepatitis, which are not readily transmissible in the school environment.

Student health records and information are confidential. Student health information, including infection and suspected infection with a disease-causing agent, shall not be disclosed except in accordance with this policy, its accompanying administrative procedure, and policy JLCCA concerning students with HIV/AIDS. In all circumstances, disclosure of information regarding a student's illness or health status shall be limited to those individuals whose knowledge is necessary to protect the safety and health of the child or others. In most cases, such protection may be accomplished effectively without disclosing the identity of the child affected with a disease.

Standard safety and health practices appropriate for protecting against transmission of diseases shall be applied in circumstances where any student requires first aid, regardless of health status. Handling of body fluids and substances shall be accomplished in accordance with such standard practices. All body fluids and substances should be treated as infectious in accordance with policy EBBA.

Parents are requested to notify the principal or the school nurse, if their student has a communicable disease and may be required to keep students who are ill out of school and school-sponsored activities until the student's condition is such that he or she can participate appropriately in the learning experience. Students may be subject to a mandatory exclusion period due to county, state, or local requirements. Students who complain of illness at school may be sent home by the principal or designee as soon as the parents or their representative(s) have been notified.

When information is received by a staff member that a student is afflicted with a serious or life-threatening readily transmissible disease, the staff member shall promptly notify the school nurse or the principal to determine the appropriate measures to protect student and staff safety and health. The nurse

and/or the principal shall determine which additional staff members have a need to know of the affected student's condition. No information regarding the student's condition shall be otherwise disseminated. The nurse or principal may take medically necessary temporary steps pending medical consultation, including removal from the classroom, to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the student and others. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) requires notification of certain readily transmissible diseases in certain situations; the District will work with the CDPHE and local health agencies when required to do so.

Parents of students showing symptoms of a readily transmissible disease may be required to provide evidence that no disease posing an unacceptable risk of being communicated to others is present, and/or to have their students complete a mandatory exclusion period before the student is allowed to return to school or to participate in school-sponsored activities. During such times, a student may be excluded from school attendance. Additional mitigation measures may be taken to prevent the spread of transmissible disease within a school environment which may include the exclusion of individuals who have been in contact with the infectious individual. Identification of who has been a contact will be determined by disease-specific requirements established by county, state, and federal health officials. The District will follow all requirements established by federal, state, and local governments regarding the exclusion of students.

The student's return to school following infection with or exposure to a readily transmissible disease should follow guidance published by the CDPHE. Medical documentation may be requested by the school when determined appropriate based on CDPHE guidance.

Adopted/Approved: April 21, 1988

Revised: September 7, 1995

June 7, 2001

December 9, 2004

October 11, 2021

Legal Refs:

20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

29 U.S.C. § 794 (Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973)

42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq. (Americans with Disabilities Act)

C.R.S. § 22-33-106(2)(b)

C.R.S. § 24-72-204(3)(a)(I)

C.R.S. §§ 25-4-1401 et seq.

Cross Refs:

JH, Student Absences and Excuses

JHB, Truancy

JLCB, Immunization of Students

JLCCA, Students with HIV/AIDS

Adopted: April 21, 1988

Last Revised: October 11, 2021

Attachments

[JLCC Communicable-Infectious Diseases final 10-11-21.pdf](#)