




Memorandum

TO: Directors, Health Service Regions
Immunization Program Managers, Health Service Regions
Directors, Local Health Departments
Immunization Program Managers, Local Health Departments

FROM: Jack C. Sims, Manager 
Immunization Branch

DATE: August 27, 2007

SUBJECT: Implementation of House Bill (HB) 3184 and HB 1059, 80 (R) Texas Legislature

The purpose of this memo is to provide you with information outlining the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) implementation steps to comply with House Bill 1059 and HB 3184.

The close of the 80th Legislative Session resulted in two bills requiring specific information to be developed by the DSHS Immunization Branch. The first bill, HB 1059, the Emily Lastinger Act, requires the department to create a list of the required immunizations for school attendance and a list of the recommended vaccinations. The required immunization list, although already in existence as the *Minimum Immunization Requirements*, has been updated. (Attached) DSHS follows the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended immunizations, thus this schedule will serve as the department's recommended list of vaccinations.

In addition, HB 1059 requires school districts that maintain a website to post the list of immunization requirements and recommendations in English and Spanish. In an effort to align the mandated information in a user-friendly format that can be easily linked to any ISD website, the DSHS Immunization Branch has updated the Immunization Requirements web page. The new web page provides a listing of each required piece of information mandated by HB 1059 under the heading Information for Schools. Lastly, HB 1059 also mandates that school districts to post a list of health clinics in the district that offer the influenza vaccine. Please contact the school districts in your area if you wish to advertise your flu clinic services and locations.

The second bill, HB 3184, requires DSHS to publish information about the benefits of annual vaccination against influenza; and, together with the Department of Family & Protective Services (DFPS), ensure the information is annually distributed to parents of children attending child-care in August or September. The DSHS Immunization Branch has developed a *Flu Fact Sheet for Child-Care Settings* and will mail the document to child-care facility centers in September. (Attached) Together with DFPS, the Immunization Branch will ensure distribution of the flu fact sheet to all enrolled children. Information on the immunization requirements for children attending child-care facilities (Attached), flu information targeting children, and the recommended immunizations can also be found on the updated web page under the heading Information for Child-Care Facilities.

The information discussed herein may be obtained at the following web page:
http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/school_info.shtm. Please distribute this information to all Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) providers in your region.

Attachments