



August 30, 2017

RE: Immunization Requirements for Students Displaced by Hurricane Harvey

Dear School Administrator:

The purpose of this letter is to remind school districts of the current immunization rules that affect students displaced by Hurricane Harvey and to provide information on how schools can obtain immunization histories for transfer students.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) rules relating to immunization requirements for school entry allow a student transferring from one Texas school to another Texas school to be provisionally enrolled without proof of required immunizations for up to 30 days. ([Texas Administrative Code, Title 25, Part I, Chapter 97, Subchapter B, Section 97.69.](#)) As the 30-day period draws closer to an end, if there appears to be a significant number of displaced students who are still having trouble obtaining their immunization records, DSHS will consider whether a short additional provisional enrollment period is possible. The 30-day time period begins the day the student begins attending classes at the new school.

Additionally, students displaced by Hurricane Harvey and who are considered homeless under the federal McKinney-Vento Act may be admitted to attend school without documentation of required immunizations for up to 30 days. (Texas Administrative Code Title 25, Part I, Chapter 97, Subchapter B, [Section 97.66\(b\).](#)) For more information regarding specific guidelines for homeless students, contact the Texas Homeless Education Office (www.theotx.org or 1-800-446-3142).

Many schools have electronic access to ImmTrac2, the Texas immunization registry. Many student immunization records can be found there. Most school districts are registered to use or access ImmTrac2. If you do not know if you are registered or to register for ImmTrac2, please email

Immunization Requirements

August 30, 2017

Page 2

immtrac2@dshs.texas.gov and include the school district name followed by Harvey.

Please contact the DSHS Immunization Unit at (800) 252-9152 with any further questions about immunization requirements or accessing ImmTrac2. Information is also available at www.immunizetexas.com.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Hellerstedt", followed by a small mark that looks like "M.D.".

John Hellerstedt, M.D.