Childcare Audits

Q. In years past, our listing consisted of “Licensed Center-Child Care Program” and “Registered Child-Care Home” facility types. This year I noticed there are now 5 types and was wondering if there has been a change in how the license is categorized or if perhaps some facility types were never included on the lists sent by Region?

A. We decided to provide additional specific information for the childcare audit list this year. The process has not changed.

Q. There are several listed as “Licensed Center-School Age Program” and “Licensed Center-Before/After School Program”. How should we handle the facilities like the YMCAs that offer programs for 1-2 hours a few times a week?

A. DSHS ACE Group in Austin created the childcare audit list for each from region from the DFPS list of childcare facilities. All facilities that indicated they were licensed for children under age five were included, even if they identified as a different type of facility (e.g. after school care). If the facility assigned does not have any pre-school aged children, the facility should not be audited. There are options in CHRS to identify why a facility wasn’t audited. When a childcare facility is retrieved in CHRS, the auditor should select the reason an audit wasn’t required. The reasons include after school, closed, current enrollment 0, non-responder, summer camp, or other. After the reason is selected, the save button should be selected.

Q. Should the auditor review intervals of when vaccines were received?

A. The auditor should look at the required number of doses since that is what is required in the Texas Administrative Code and the date the vaccine was given, if the vaccine must be given on or after a specific birthday. Please note that the number of doses may be different if the child is following a catch-up schedule, instead of the recommended schedule. These differences are outlined in the Texas Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Child-Care and Pre-K Facilities (6-15).

Q. If a childcare center is less than five years old, will they be audited annually?

A. No, the same facility will not be audited in subsequent years.

Q. Who should I email when a childcare facility is closed?

A. Please email schoolimm@dshs.texas.gov and a new childcare facility will be assigned.

Q. How much time is a childcare facility given to prepare for an audit after they have received notification an audit will occur?

A. The childcare facility should be provided plenty of notice an audit will occur and DSHS ACE does not specify an exact amount of time. The facility should be given plenty of advance notice to ensure they have the required documents ready when the audit does occur.
School Audits

Q. If a specific grade such as Kindergarten is on the school audit list, do I only audit 100 records?
A. Yes. If a specific grade is identified to be audited, the auditor should only audit 100 randomly pulled records for that grade.

Q. Why were PCV and Hib removed from the school audit section?
A. PCV and Hib were intentionally removed from the school audit sheet due to the fact neither one is included in the state minimum vaccine requirements for K-12.

Q. What should I do if a facility on my audit list only has Pre-K?
A. Please email schoolimm@dshs.texas.gov

Q. How does the auditor know if a provisionally enrolled student is receiving subsequent doses of the required vaccine(s) as fast as medically feasible?
A. The student’s immunization record will indicate when the subsequent doses have been received. The ACIP catch-up schedule should be referenced to verify the student is receiving the subsequent dose(s) as fast as medically feasible.

Q. If a school RN contacts our office regarding the spacing of the DTaP vaccine on a first grader that is less than 6 months between doses #3 and #4 given after the 4th birthday, would this child be in compliance or would they need to repeat the dose?
A. The student would be in compliance.

Validation Surveys

Q. Do I have to wait until after December 14, 2018 to conduct a validation survey?
A. No. The person conducting the validation survey can ask the school if the Annual Report of Immunization Status has been completed. If the Annual Report has been submitted, the person should proceed with conducting a validation survey.

Q. How many records are required to complete a validation survey?
A. 100 records for public schools and 24 records for a private school.

Miscellaneous

Q. Why are we no longer receiving TCRiSS assignments?
A. DSHS ACE Group in Austin has indefinitely suspended the TCRiSS survey.

Q. What would be considered acceptable validation for a vaccine record?
A. Documentation of vaccines administered that includes the signature or stamp of the physician or physician’s health designee, or public health personnel. Immunization records generated from electronic health record systems must include clinic contact information
and the provider’s signature/stamp. An immunization record generated from a state or local health authority is acceptable (including ImmTrac2). An official record received from school officials, including a record from another state, is acceptable.

**Q. Why is there a four-day grace period?**

A. A four-day grace period is allowed due to the body’s immune response. Doses administered 5 days or earlier than the minimum interval or age should not be counted as valid doses and should be repeated as age appropriate.

**Q. What is the spacing of the hepatitis A vaccine?**

A. In school year 2018-19, if a student is enrolled in kindergarten through 9th grade, the child should have already received two doses. If a student is enrolled in kindergarten through 9th grade and is following the ACIP catch-up schedule, the student must receive the 2nd dose of hepatitis A six months after receiving the first dose in order to remain enrolled in school. The 1st dose of hepatitis A must be received on or after the 1st birthday.

**Q. If a student has a valid conscientious exemption affidavit on file and has received a vaccine after the date listed on the date of the vaccine affidavit; is the form void?**

A. No. The auditor should indicate the student is up-to-date for the vaccine that has been received and indicate the student is in compliance for the vaccines s/he has not received since there is a valid vaccine exemption affidavit on file.

**Q. In the case of a provisional student, are they placed in both the “# of records with all required doses” box (since they are as current as they can be), as well as the “Provisional Enrollment” box?**

A. As long as the student continues to receive the subsequent doses of the required vaccine(s) at the correct intervals, the student will be allowed to continue with their provisionally enrolled status. During this time, the RN or school administrator is required to review the student’s immunization record. If the student does not receive the subsequent doses of the required vaccine(s), s/he is not allowed to remain enrolled.