

## Health Policy

All students must comply with the requirements of the State Immunization Code. The only exemptions to the school laws for immunizations are for medical reasons or religious beliefs. In December, 2014, the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules approved a new educational requirement for Michigan parents opting their children out of getting vaccinated before entering school. The new rule allows parents/guardians to have the opportunity to speak with a health educator from their local health department about their concerns and questions regarding immunizations prior to the nonmedical waiver being signed. Any parent/guardian who wants to claim a nonmedical waiver will need to receive education regarding the benefits of vaccination and the risks of disease from a county health department before obtaining the certified nonmedical waiver form through the Local Health Department. The new rule requires the use of the State of Michigan nonmedical waiver form dated January 1, 2015.

The FAQ below explains the new process and how it affects schools and parents.

### [Michigan School and Licensed Childcare Rule for Claiming a Nonmedical Waiver for Immunizations](#)

Immunization records must be delivered to the school prior to acceptance for enrollment. Parents should request their child's health records from the previous school prior to starting school at Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy. Please contact your local Health Department with any questions regarding health requirements.