

## Physical Exams

Required by state law in grades K, 6, and 11

### What is included in a school physical exam?

The Pennsylvania Public School Health law requires a medical examination for children upon original entry into school and in grades 6 and 11. If your child's school nurse has not received a private physical exam form, s/he will be scheduled for an exam by the school physician.

Medical exams will be conducted by the school physician in the nurse's office of your child's school. The removal of sufficient clothing will be required to ensure a complete exam. Hospital gowns are provided (females). The school nurse is present during the exam. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend, although it is not required.

The following may be included in your child's medical exam at school:

- \* Medical history
- \* Physical assessment, including:
  - \* Skin, hair, head, neck, glands
  - \* Eyes, ears, nose, mouth, throat
  - \* Heart, lungs
  - \* Abdomen
  - \* Spine/scoliosis (bending position)
  - \* Genitalia (males only)
  - \* Extremities, musculoskeletal system
  - \* Pulse, blood pressure
  - \* Recommendations for follow-up care

The exam is intended for screening purposes only. No immunizations are given at school during a physical exam, nor are any lab tests administered. In the event that any abnormality is found, the school nurse will notify you, the parent or legal guardian, by phone, in order that you may consult with your family physician.

Your child's school nurse is happy to answer any questions you may have regarding your child's health.

Check the calendar for exact dates of physical exams.

<http://www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health/lib/health/schoolhealth/PrivatePhysicianForm.pdf>