

Notice of Proposed Rule

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Division of Disease Control

RULE NO.: RULE TITLE:

64D-3.046 Immunization Requirements: Public and Nonpublic Schools, Grades Preschool, Kindergarten Through 12, and Adult Education Classes

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The purpose is to update the immunization and document requirements for child care and school entry, including DH 680, Florida Certification of Immunization, DH 681, Religious Exemption from Immunization, and the Immunization Guidelines—Florida Schools, Child Care Facilities and Family Day Care Homes. The language and form for opting out of inclusion in Florida SHOTS will be updated and other forms will be updated and appropriately incorporated by reference.

SUMMARY: This proposed rule removes from requirements immunizations that are not required by section 1003.22, Florida Statutes, and updates the Certification of Immunization and the Immunization Guidelines to conform with this change. The rule will also update the Religious Exemption form, providing for the inclusion of moral and ethical beliefs. The department is also updating and clarifying the provision related to opting out of inclusion in Florida SHOTS and making other minor edits to update references to the department's Immunization Section and to update and incorporate compliance reporting forms and those required for participation in Florida SHOTS by reference as required by law.

SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED REGULATORY COSTS AND LEGISLATIVE RATIFICATION:

The Agency has determined that this rule will not have an adverse impact on small business or likely increase directly or indirectly regulatory costs in excess of \$200,000 in the aggregate within one year after the implementation of the rule. A SERC has not been prepared by the Agency.

The Agency has determined that the proposed rule is not expected to require legislative ratification based on the statement of estimated regulatory costs or if no SERC is required, the information expressly relied upon and described herein: Based on the completed SERC checklist, this rulemaking will not have an adverse impact on regulatory costs in excess of \$1 million within five years as established in s.120.541(2)(a), F.S.

Any person who wishes to provide information regarding a statement of estimated regulatory costs, or to provide a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative must do so in writing within 21 days after publication of this notice.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY: 381.003(1), (2), 381.005(3), 1003.22(3), FS.

LAW IMPLEMENTED: 381.003(1), 381.005(1)(i), 1003.22, FS.

IF REQUESTED WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE, A HEARING WILL BE SCHEDULED AND ANNOUNCED IN THE FAR.

THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE IS: Thomas Bendle, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Epidemiology, Division of Disease Control and Health Protection at VaccineRule@flhealth.gov or at (850)245-4342.

THE TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS:

64D-3.046 Immunization Requirements: Public and Nonpublic Schools, Grades Preschool, Kindergarten Through 12, and Adult Education Classes.

(1) No change.

(2) Immunization and Documentation Requirements for School Entry/Attendance:

(a) A student may attend a public or non-public school, grades preschool through 12 or an adult education class if younger than 21, if prior to admittance, attendance or transfer, they present one of the following for inspection for validity by an authorized school official:

1. DH8037-DCHP-08/2026 ~~Form 680~~, Florida Certification of Immunization (eff. 08/2026 ~~July 2010~~), incorporated by reference, available from Department of Health (DOH) county health departments (CHDs) or physicians' offices, or online at <https://flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-20005> ~~http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-02410~~, or

2. DH8033-DCHP-08/2026 ~~Form 681~~, Religious Exemption from Immunization ~~Exemptions for Immunizations~~ (English/Spanish/Haitian Creole) (eff. 08/2026 ~~July 2008~~), incorporated by reference, available at <https://flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-20006> or at DOH CHDs, must be signed by the local county health department medical director or their designee. ~~The form is available online at: http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-02341.~~

(b) Specific immunization requirements by grade which must be documented prior to admittance, attendance or any other initial entrance are detailed in the Immunization Guidelines—Florida Schools, ~~Child Care Childcare~~ Facilities and Family ~~Day Care Daycare~~ Homes ~~2026~~, DH8032-DCHP-08/2026 ~~Form 150-615~~ (Eff: August 2026 ~~March 2013~~), incorporated by reference ~~and~~, available online at: <https://flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-20016> ~~http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-02342.~~

1. ~~For t~~Temporary or permanent medical exemption, a DH8037-DCHP-08/2026 ~~Form 680~~ must be signed by a practitioner licensed under Chapter 458 or 459, F.S., or their authorized representative. ~~For temporary or permanent medical exemption~~ The signing practitioner must possess medical records documenting the medical basis for each such exemption.

2. A DH8037-DCHP-08/2026 ~~Form 680~~ that does not include a temporary or permanent medical exemption must be signed by a practitioner licensed under Chapter 458, 459, 460, or 464, F.S.

3. A DH8037-DCHP-08/2026 that is electronically certified through Florida SHOTS (State Health Online Tracking System) ~~and Electronically Certified DH Form 680~~ accessed directly by the school is considered certified in writing and signed by the Florida SHOTS private provider.

(3) Documentation Requirements for Schools:

(a) through (b) No change

(c) Compliance Reporting:

1. Each public and nonpublic school with a kindergarten and/or seventh grade shall submit an annual compliance report. The report shall be completed on DH8035-DCHP-08/2026 ~~Form 684~~, Immunization Annual Report of Compliance for Kindergarten and Seventh Grade Compulsory Immunization (eff. 08/2026 ~~July 2010~~), incorporated by reference, available at <https://flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-20007> or DOH CHDs. The report shall include the immunization status of all children who were attending kindergarten and seventh grades at the beginning of the school year. The report shall be forwarded to the CHD director/administrator no later than October 1 of each school year where the data will be compiled on DH8036-DCHP-08/2026 ~~Form 685~~, Kindergarten and Seventh Grade Annual Report of Compliance County Summary (eff. 08/2026 ~~July 2010~~), incorporated by reference, available at <https://flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-20008> or DOH CHDs; or electronically generated by the Department of Education.

2. No change

(4) through (5) No change.

(6) Florida SHOTS (State Health Online Tracking System) Opt-Out ~~Opt-Out~~ Provision —

(a) The Florida SHOTS Notification and Opt-Out Form, DH8029-DCHP-08/2026 (English) (eff. 08/2026) or DH8030-DCHP-08/2026 (Spanish) (eff. 08/2026) or DH8031-DCHP-08/2026 (Haitian-Creole) (eff. 08/2026), are incorporated by reference and available online at <https://flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-20009>, <https://flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-20010>, and <https://flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-20011>, or from the health care practitioner or entity, or college or university student health center or clinic in the state, that provides the immunization.

(b) Upon each administration of a vaccine, parents ~~Parents~~ or guardians of a child under 18 years of age may elect to decline the child's participation in the Florida immunization registry, Florida SHOTS, by signing ~~submitting~~ a Florida SHOTS Notification and Opt-Out ~~Opt-Out~~ Form and providing the form to the health care practitioner or entity to the DOH. The form, either a DH Form 1478 (English) (January 2007) or DH Form 1478S (Spanish) (September 2003) or DH Form 1478H (Haitian Creole) (January 2006), incorporated by reference, is available from the DOH, Bureau of Immunization, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #A 11, Tallahassee, FL 32399 1719. The

~~immunization records of children whose parents choose to opt out will not be shared with other entities that are allowed by law to have access to the children's immunization record via authorized access to Florida SHOTS.~~

(c) Upon each administration of a vaccine, a college or university student from 18 years of age to 23 years of age who obtains a vaccination from a college or university health center or clinic in the state may elect to decline participation in the Florida immunization registry, Florida SHOTS, by signing a Florida SHOTS Notification and Opt-Out Form and providing the form to the college or university health center or clinic.

(d) The health care practitioner or entity, or the college or university health center or clinic, shall submit each Florida SHOTS Notification and Opt-Out Form submitted to them to the DOH Immunization Section. Additionally, a parent or guardian or college or university student may choose to submit the Florida SHOTS Notification and Opt-Out Form directly to the DOH Immunization Section.

(e) Upon receipt of the Florida SHOTS Notification and Opt-Out Form by the DOH Immunization Section, any identifying information pertaining to the child or college or university student will be removed from Florida SHOTS and will not be available for sharing with other entities that are allowed by law to have access to the immunization record via authorized access to Florida SHOTS.

(7) Florida SHOTS Private Provider Participation – Any health care practitioner licensed in Florida under Chapter 458, 459 or 464, F.S., may request authorization to access Florida SHOTS by filling out a ~~DH8038-DCHP-08/2026 (eff. 08/2026) Form 1479, Authorized Private Provider User Agreement for Access to Florida SHOTS (January 2007),~~ incorporated by reference ~~and~~, available at <https://flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-20012> or from the DOH ~~Bureau of Immunization Section~~, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #A-11, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1719. The ~~DH8038-DCHP-08/2026 Form 1479~~ will be returned to the Department of Health Immunization Section for processing and authorization to access Florida SHOTS. Notification of access approval and instructions for accessing Florida SHOTS will be provided by the DOH Immunization Section. The authorized user and the applicable licensing authority or agency shall notify the DOH, ~~Bureau of Immunization Section~~ Florida SHOTS personnel when an authorized user's license or registration has expired or has been suspended or revoked.

(8) Florida SHOTS School and Licensed or Registered Child Care Facility Participation – Any public or nonpublic school, or licensed or registered child care facility may request authorization to access Florida SHOTS by completing a ~~DH8034-DCHP-08/2026 (eff. 08/2026) Form 2415, Authorized School and Licensed or Registered Child Care Facility User Agreement for Access to Florida SHOTS (January 2007),~~ incorporated by reference ~~and~~, available at <https://flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-20013> or from the DOH, ~~Bureau of Immunization Section~~, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #A-11, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1719. The ~~DH8034-DCHP-08/2026 Form 2415~~ will be returned to the DOH for processing and authorization to access Florida SHOTS. Notification of access approval and instructions for accessing Florida SHOTS will be provided by the DOH Immunization Section. The authorized user and the applicable licensing authority or agency shall immediately notify the DOH, ~~Bureau of Immunization Section~~ Florida SHOTS personnel when an authorized user's license or registration has expired or has been suspended or revoked.

Rulemaking Authority 381.003(1), (2), 381.005(3), 1003.22 FS. Law Implemented 381.003(1), 381.005(1)(i), 1003.22 FS. History—New 11-20-06, Amended 7-15-07, 7-28-08, 12-29-10, 12-29-11, 4-2-13,_____.

DH 680, Florida Certification of Immunization, is being substantially reworded and assigned an updated form number, DH8037-DCHP-08/2026. See <http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-02410> for present text.

DH Form 1478 (English), DH Form 1478S (Spanish), and DH Form 1478H (Haitian-Creole), Florida SHOTS Notification and Opt Out Form, are being substantially reworded and assigned updated form numbers, DH8029-DCHP-08/2026 (English), DH8030-DCHP-08/2026 (Spanish), and DH8031-DCHP-08/2026 (Haitian-Creole). Contact Thomas Bendle at VaccineRule@flhealth.gov or at (850)245-4342 for present text.

DH Form 1479, Private Provider User Agreement for Access to Florida SHOTS, is being substantially reworded and assigned an updated form number, DH8038-DCHP-08/2026. Contact Thomas Bendle at VaccineRule@flhealth.gov or at (850)245-4342 for present text.

DH Form 2115, Authorized School and Licensed or Registered Child Care Facility User Agreement for Access to Florida SHOTS, is being substantially reworded and assigned an updated form number, DH8034-DCHP-08/2026. Contact Thomas Bendle at VaccineRule@flhealth.gov or at (850)245-4342 for present text.

NAME OF PERSON ORIGINATING PROPOSED RULE: Thomas Bendle, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Epidemiology, Division of Disease Control and Health Protection

NAME OF AGENCY HEAD WHO APPROVED THE PROPOSED RULE: Joseph Ladapo, MD, PhD, State Surgeon General

DATE PROPOSED RULE WAS APPROVED BY AGENCY HEAD: August 20, 2026

DATE NOTICE OF RULE DEVELOPMENT WAS PUBLISHED IN FAR: September 10, 2025