



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

EDUCATION

Frequently Asked Questions – LEA Data Collection Template

1. LEA Question

What impact will this have on attendance and / or truancy rates? Will those students be excluded from the calculations?

OSSE Response

The new immunization attendance codes will allow for schools and OSSE to track absences based on immunization non-compliance. The absences will count the same as other excused and unexcused absences, including potential impact on absenteeism and truancy.

The immunization of students is required by DC Code § 38–501 et seq. Non-compliant students are allowed to attend school for 20 school days without proper immunization certification. After 20 school days, the student must be removed from school until they are able to present immunization certification to the school to return. For each day of school that a student misses due to immunization non-compliance, the school will code the student as "unexcused absence."

2. LEA Question

Data element 1 and 2 are incredibly hard to track in our current systems and will require additional data support that our school currently does not have. Is there a different way to collect this information?

OSSE Response

The Oral Health Assessment (OHA) will require a similar turn-around time as the Universal Health Certificate (UHC). These forms are required by DC Code § 38–602. This data may be entered throughout the school year once the forms are received by the school. For both the OHA and UHC, the "yes/no" and "date" data should be entered in SIS and then the forms should be given to the school nurse for further processing in their health system.

3. LEA Question

How/if the dual enrollment code will be capture?

OSSE Response

To align with PCSB's dual enrollment reporting, LEAs should report summer dual enrollments in the subsequent school year (e.g., a summer 2020 dual enrollment should be flagged as a dual enrollment in the LEA SIS for SY20-21).

4. LEA Question

Can you let me know whether the EL status codes apply to adult LEAs? Also, does the Oral Health Assessment apply to adult LEAs?

OSSE Response

The Oral Health Assessment does not apply to LEAs that exclusively serve adult students. This Oral Health Assessment requirement applies only to each student attending Pre-K through grade 12 (DC Code § 38–602).

5. LEA Question

Is the dual enrollment an indicator or a new code that will be provided?

OSSE Response

Dual enrollment is a yes/no indicator.

6. LEA Question

Attendance – Unexcused (Immunization) Does this mean we would now have coded unexcused absences?

OSSE Response

The "unexcused absence - immunization" and "excused absence - immunization" are only to be used for students removed due to immunization non-compliance.

7. LEA Question

How will OSSE be able to check if a student has reached 20 days of attendance without an Immunization record? Will they take gather all the students who have a "No" in their Immunization records submitted field (and perhaps those with a "Yes" and an invalid date) and count their total enrollment days?

OSSE Response

OSSE has aggregate school-level immunization compliance based on records in DC Health's District of Columbia Immunization Information System (DOCIIS). If a school shows a high number of non-compliant students in DOCIIS, but the school is not coding "unexcused absence - immunization," it will be a flag for OSSE that the school is not enforcing the immunization attendance policy. Enforcement of the 20 school day period is primarily left to the individual LEAs/schools. The LEA/school must closely monitor the number of days' non-compliant students are allowed to attend school prior to removal, per the immunization attendance policy and DC Code § 38–501.

8. LEA Question

What is the difference between an Excused and Unexcused absence for a student who hasn't submitted Immunization records?

OSSE Response

If a non-compliant student is removed from school after the 20 school day period, the student will be coded as "unexcused absence - immunization" for each day of school missed until the student is able to present proper immunization certification to the school. Once the student is able to return, the school will reclassify the "unexcused days" to "excused absence - immunization."

9. LEA Question

Will a new attendance code be created, like AFEI and AFUI?

OSSE Response

Yes, the new attendance code will be reflected in the LEA Data Collection Template.