



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

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DIRECTOR

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To Whom It May Concern:

With recent outbreaks of measles in Europe, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) acknowledges the importance of ensuring all preteens and adolescents are safe and healthy when they travel to the U.S., which includes being up-to-date on recommended immunizations. Diseases are only a plane ride away, and the MDCH Division of Immunization is committed to protecting all of Michigan's residents – from infants to the elderly – from vaccine-preventable diseases.

As children get older, they develop risks for more diseases, and protection from some childhood vaccines can begin to wear off. Students who travel to the U.S. through foreign exchange programs may not have been vaccinated against the same diseases that U.S. students are [recommended](#) to be vaccinated against. Further, certain vaccines are [required](#) for school entry in Michigan for all 6<sup>th</sup> graders and those 11-18 years of age changing school districts (foreign exchange students would fall into this category). It is especially important to protect these adolescents from vaccine-preventable diseases and make sure that they are up-to-date on all of their immunizations.

Enclosed you will find a survey to assist MDCH in learning about immunization practices (e.g., recommendations, requirements, screening) in foreign exchange programs. **Please take a few moments to fill out the questionnaire below and fax back to (517) 335-9855 or e-mail the form to [LondoC1@michigan.gov](mailto:LondoC1@michigan.gov).** All information will be kept confidential and will be used to improve adolescent immunization practices in Michigan. We appreciate your time and willingness to complete the survey.

If you have questions, please contact Courtney Londo, Adolescent and Adult Immunization Coordinator, at [LondoC1@michigan.gov](mailto:LondoC1@michigan.gov) or by phone at (517) 335-9948.

Thank you for all that you are doing to keep Michigan's youth healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Bob Swanson, MPH  
Director, Division of Immunization  
Bureau of Epidemiology

Enclosure