



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

April 27, 2016

Ms. Kathleen Penak
U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Child Care – Region V
233 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 400
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Ms. Penak:

This letter is to serve as a Corrective Action Plan for Michigan's immunization requirements.

Michigan realizes that our Public Health Code (Act 378 of 1978) has three parental options (religious waiver, medical waiver and parental choice waiver) which are not allowed by the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF). According to the CCDF rules, only children who have a medical or religious waiver can receive funding. Michigan needs to change our eligibility policies to ensure that those families who utilize parental choice to waive immunizations not be allowed to receive funding.

Michigan is currently working to identify how to change our eligibility process to include this verification and prevent enrollment. In addition to changing the application form (and online application form questions), MI will also have to modify Bridges (eligibility system) to include as a verification of eligibility. We will also need to work with Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) to ensure that child care licensing rules support this requirement.

Michigan is currently researching how other states verify immunization waiver status at enrollment as well as joining a workgroup (LARA, MDE, Department of Health and Human Services) that will be discussing the Public Health Code and impacts it has to other programs to see if we can streamline the verification requirement. Once information is gathered and a policy is formulated, we expect to have the revision in place by the end of December 2016.

Ms. Penak
Page 2

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

JOHN C. AUSTIN – PRESIDENT • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – VICE PRESIDENT
MICHELLE FECTEAU – SECRETARY • PAMELA PUGH – TREASURER
LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY – NASBE DELEGATE • KATHLEEN N. STRAUS
EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER • RICHARD ZEILE

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • 517-373-3324

April 26, 2016

If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Lisa Brewer Walraven

cc: Susan Broman