



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
Prevention and Community Health  
Post Office Box 47830 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7830

DATE: December 14, 2015

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Office of Immunization and Child Profile  
Michele Roberts, Director

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR LIMITED DELEGATION: CHAPTER 246-105 WAC,  
IMMUNIZATION OF CHILD CARE AND SCHOOL CHILDREN AGAINST  
CERTAIN VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES

The Washington State Board of Health (the board) has authority under RCW 43.20.050(2)(f) to adopt rules for the prevention and control of infectious and noninfectious diseases. The purpose of this rule is to increase public health protection by preventing infectious diseases. This rule must be updated in 2016 to reflect the most current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations. Each year, the ACIP publishes the "Recommended Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 0 Through 18 Years, United States" in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR); the schedule is adopted in WAC 246-105-040. The ACIP immunization schedule serves as a best clinical practice and is the immunization Standard of Care. Washington's immunization requirements for school and child care entry follow ACIP recommendations to ensure optimal protection against disease.

The Department of Health (department) is requesting the board delegate to it authority to adopt the 2016 ACIP immunization schedule in chapter 246-105 WAC. Delegation to the department for this rule change would meet the board's policy for delegation adopted in Policy Number 2000-001: (1) the rule making would update the ACIP immunization schedule to the most current schedule; (2) the state has limited discretion in this rule making because the most current immunization schedule does not impact Washington's immunization requirements; (3) it is anticipated the regulated community will support state adoption of the requirements as ACIP recommendations related to vaccine preventable diseases in 246-105-030 WAC (Vaccine-preventable diseases children must be protected against for full immunization) are the standard of care and national practice; (4) there are no anticipated policy changes; and (5) stakeholders would be adequately involved through Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, School Nurse Corps Administrators, school nurses, Department of Early Learning, child care providers, the Washington Vaccine Advisory Committee, and other department outreach via newsletter and direct emails to schools and child care centers.

Michele Roberts, Director of the Department of Health's Office of Immunization and Child Profile, is available to address questions regarding this request for limited delegation of rulemaking.