

DRAFT WAC 246-100-166 Change Summary

- Update the reference to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule from the 2007 to the 2008 version. Given the 2008 ACIP schedule has no substantive changes from the 2007 version; this will be a technical update only and keep the rule in synch with current immunization references.
- Add pneumococcal to the list of vaccine-preventable diseases children must be vaccinated against in order to attend child care and preschool.
- Re-codify WAC section 246-100-166 into nine sections within a new chapter under WAC title 246 (see below). By re-codifying this WAC into sections, it will be possible to use an "exception" rule process to update the schedule every year. It will be possible to simultaneously make more complex policy changes (i.e. add a requirement for another vaccine-preventable disease) using standard rule processes.
 - Purpose
 - Definitions
 - Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Children must be Protected Against for Full Immunization
 - Requirements based on National Immunization Guidelines
 - Required Documentation of Immunization Status
 - Duties of Schools and Child Care Centers
 - Duties of Health Care Providers
 - Criteria for Excluding Children from Schools or Child Care Centers
 - Implementation
- Define a Certificate of Exemption (COE). Currently parents and guardians use the Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) form to document both immunizations received and their exemptions. A separate COE provides a potential educational opportunity for parents to better understand the implications of personal or philosophical exemptions on their children. It may also make the CIS easier to read, as the addition of a number of new childhood immunizations over the years has crowded the form. This change more closely reflects the language in the RCW underpinning this rule. More substantive changes to the exemption process would require legislative action as the Board's statutory authority is limited in this area.
- Clarify the meaning of conditional status for children who are in the process of completing required vaccinations.