

Nutrition Services Department of State Health Services

Effective July 1, 2012

Policy No. IM:11.0

Screening of and Referral for Immunizations

Purpose

To ensure that local agencies screen and refer WIC infant and children applicants and participants in an effort to meet DSHS immunization requirements.

Authority

State Policy

Policy

Local agencies shall screen infant and children applicants and participants for current immunization status during application, recertification, and mid-certification assessment visits. In an effort to increase immunization rates in Texas, local agencies shall refer applicants/participants to immunization providers when necessary.

Procedures

- I. Screening immunization records and making referrals for immunizations shall occur during applicants'/participants' certification and mid-certification visits.
- II. Local agencies shall designate which staff members are responsible for screening immunization records. When immunization records are available, immunization status, current or not current, shall be marked on the applicant's/participant's certification form and noted in the TWIN system. If immunizations are not current, referrals to immunization providers shall be made. If immunization records are not available, participants will be reminded to bring their records to their next certification appointment for review.
- III. Information on timely immunizations shall be provided to applicants/participants. At a minimum, WIC staff shall provide a DSHS immunization schedule or post a DSHS immunization schedule for

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applicants/participants to view. The annually updated schedule can be accessed at
http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/Schedule/schedule_child.shtm.

- IV. Local agencies shall identify providers who offer immunizations in their communities. This information shall be made available to applicants/participants.