



# School Nurse Notes

[www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth/schnurs.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth/schnurs.shtm)

A nursing practice publication for  
Texas school nurses from the  
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## Hot Topics

### Awards for Excellence in Texas School Health – Call for Applications – Deadline: October 2, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Posting)



Applications are now available for the Awards for Excellence in Texas School Health program. This awards program for public and private schools is celebrating its 20th year with some exciting new changes. New awards have been added and additional money has been donated for that purpose. Deadline for submission of applications is October 2, 2009. Winners will be announced on October 16, 2009. Awards winners receive their cash gift at the awards ceremony on January 29, 2010. For more information and to access an application, go to [www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth/awards.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth/awards.shtm).

### New School Immunization Requirements – Effective: Aug. 1, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Posting)

Changes to school immunization requirements for five vaccines for the 2009-2010 school year took effect Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>. "The changes were made to update the Texas elementary and secondary school immunization requirements to more closely match recommendations by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices," said Jack Sims, Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) immunization branch manager. Changes affect mainly students entering kindergarten and seventh grade. All immunizations must be completed by the first day of attendance at public and private schools. Information about the vaccine new requirements can be found at [www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/school/default.shtm). A helpful quick reference chart on vaccine requirements for students can be accessed at [www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/docs/school/6-14eng.pdf](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/docs/school/6-14eng.pdf). A new requirements chart for pre-K and childcare facilities can be accessed at [www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/docs/school/6-15\\_2009-2010.pdf](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/docs/school/6-15_2009-2010.pdf) (BILINGUAL).

### H1N1 – Current Information from DSHS – Effective: IMMEDIATE and ONGOING (2<sup>nd</sup> Posting)

The following links provide the latest Texas Information on H1N1. Listed under the Texas Influenza Summit and regional conferences are many of the PowerPoints conducted in the past and those that will be conducted in the future. For the latest H1N1 information for the public and professionals, from DSHS and related links, visit the Texasflu.org Web site at [www.texasflu.org](http://www.texasflu.org) or [www.dshs.state.tx.us/swineflu/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/swineflu/default.shtm).



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