

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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Director/Health Officer

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Date: January, 2026

To: Parent/Guardian of Midland County Pre-Kindergarteners

From: Beverly Pyles, RN, BSN, Community Services Director, Midland County Department of Public Health
Nicole Swanton, RN, BSN, Clinic Services Director, Midland County Department of Public Health

Before a child enters Kindergarten, parents/guardians are required to provide three types of basic health information:

- An up-to-date vaccination record
- Proof of hearing and vision screening completed once between the ages of 3 and 5
- Proof of an oral health assessment done within 6 months of starting school

The following information will be useful when preparing to begin Kindergarten.

Childhood Immunizations

Michigan State Law requires all children enrolling in a Michigan school for the first time to be immunized or protected against the following: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B and varicella (chicken pox). Immunizations can be given at 4 years of age.

Immunizations are available through the Health Department. Copies of immunization records are available by request. Immunization services are available by appointment only, call 989-832-6665. If you have decided not to immunize your child, you must obtain a vaccine waiver from the Health Department to submit to the schools. Certified waivers can only be obtained by scheduling a waiver education appointment at the Health Department by calling 989-832-6665.

Please refer to Immunization Table attached for more information.

Hearing and Vision Screening

Please refer to Hearing and Vision Screening information enclosed

Kindergarten Oral Health Screening

Please refer to Kindergarten Oral Health Screening information enclosed

Please remember to keep your child home from school if they have a fever, cough, sneezing, earache, headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, sore throat, or other signs of illness. Remember to contact your school to report the absence and call your health care provider. If your child's provider has diagnosed the illness, please include the diagnosis in the message you leave the school when reporting the absence.



Vaccines Required for School Entry in Michigan

Whenever children are in group settings, there is a chance for disease to spread. Parents must follow state vaccine laws in order for their children to attend school. These laws are the minimum standard for preventing disease outbreaks in group settings. The best way to protect children from serious diseases is to follow the [Immunization Recommendations for Michigan](#). When following the recommended schedule children are fully protected and any school vaccination requirements are met.

	All kindergartners and 4–6-year-old transfer students	All 7th graders and 7–18-year-old transfer students
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTP, DTaP, Tdap)¹	4 doses DTP or DTaP 1 dose must be at or after 4 years of age	4 doses diphtheria and tetanus or 3 doses if 1 st dose given on or after 1 year of age 1 dose Tdap at 11 years of age or older upon entry into 7 th grade or higher
Polio¹		4 doses or 3 doses if dose 3 was given on or after 4 years of age
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)^{1, 2}		2 doses at or after 12 months of age
Hepatitis B^{1, 2}		3 doses
Meningococcal Conjugate (MenACWY)¹	None	1 dose at 11 years of age or older upon entry into 7 th grade or higher
Varicella (Chickenpox)^{1, 2}		2 doses at or after 12 months of age or current lab immunity or history of varicella disease

¹Vaccines should be given at certain ages and at certain times (follow the [Immunization Recommendations for Michigan](#) for the recommended number of doses, correct spacing, and ages); this chart is based on Michigan school immunization requirements. We strongly encourage parents and providers to follow the AAP recommended schedule because school requirements are the minimum for protection. Follow this chart when assessing immunization status for school immunization requirements.² If the child has not received these vaccines, documented immunity/waiver is required. During disease outbreaks, incompletely vaccinated children may be excluded from school. Parents and guardians choosing to decline vaccines must obtain a certified non-medical waiver from a local health department. Read more about waivers at www.michigan.gov/immunize. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) does not discriminate against any individual or group on the basis of race, national origin, color, sex, disability, religion, age, height, weight, familial status, partisan considerations, or genetic information. Sex-based discrimination includes, but is not limited to, discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, and pregnancy.

Hearing and Vision Screening Midland County Health Department

Michigan Law requires hearing and vision screening at least once between the ages 3-5 before your child enters kindergarten. The Public Health Code Act 368 of 1978, Section 9307 states that "a parent, guardian, or person in *loco parentis* applying to have a child registered for the first time in a kindergarten or first grade in a school in this state shall present to school officials, at the time of registration or not later than the first day of school, a certificate of hearing and vision testing or screening or statements of exception under Section 9311".

Children are also screened for hearing in kindergarten, 2nd, and 4th grades. Vision is screened in 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 9th grades. These screenings are provided by the Midland County Health Department **at no cost to families**.

Hearing and Vision Screening Requirements		
Pre-school	X	X
Kindergarten	X	
1st Grade		X
2nd Grade	X	
3rd Grade		X
4th Grade	X	
5th Grade		X
7th Grade		X
9th Grade		X

These are hearing and vision **screenings only**. If your child does not pass a hearing and/or vision screening you will receive referral information from the Health Department. We are required by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to follow up on all students who have been referred.

Please call the Health Department at (989) 832-6673 if you have questions about your child's screening or if your child needs health care coverage. More information about our hearing and vision screening programs is located on the Midland County website at www.co.midland.mi.us.

Why are Hearing and Vision Screenings Important?

An undiagnosed hearing problem may impact your child's ability to pay attention or follow directions.

An undiagnosed vision problem may affect your child's ability to read and learn.



Hearing & Vision Program
Midland County Health Department
220 West Ellsworth Street
Midland, MI 48640-5194
Phone (989) 832-6673
Fax (989) 486-9065





KINDERGARTEN / YOUNG 5'S SCHOOL ENTRY HEARING AND VISION CLINIC

Hearing and Vision screenings will be held
by appointment on

May 11th, 12th, 13th & 14th 2026

**Call the Midland County Health Department
to schedule an appointment.**



989-832-6673



SCREENINGS ARE FREE

If your child has been previously screened between the ages of 3 and Kindergarten Entry and you need a copy of the record call the Midland County Heath Department.



Our Location

**220 W. ELLSWORTH ST.
MIDLAND MI 48640**



Our Website

<https://midlandcountymi.gov/Healthhearingvision>

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KINDERGARTEN ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT (KOHA) WALK-IN SCREENING

2026-2027

Kindergarteners



The GREAT LAKES BAY HEALTH CENTER MOBILE DENTAL BUS
will be parked at the Midland County Service Building for
dental screenings on:

WEDNESDAY MAY 13TH 2026
FROM

10AM-5:30PM

**220 W. ELLSWORTH ST.
MIDLAND, MI 48640**



**SCAN QR CODE FOR
MIDLAND COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH
KOHA WEBSITE:**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT KOHA, CALL
989-832-6673**

**OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
[HTTPS://MIDLANDCOUNTYMI.GOV/HEALTH-KOHA](https://midlandcountymi.gov/health-koha)**

MDHHS-6280, CERTIFICATE OF DENTAL SCREENING

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
(New 8-25)

Parents/guardians: Your child received a dental screening. Dental screening is required for kindergarteners by the Michigan Public Health Code, Public Act 368 of 1978, MCL 333.9316. Present this certificate of screening when enrolling your child into kindergarten. Retain a copy for your health records.

Pass Refer; follow-up with a dentist required

Screening does not replace the need for routine dental care. Routine dental checkups are recommended every 6 months.

Child's Name

Screening Date

Agency/Local Health Department

Phone Number

MDHHS-6280 (New 8-25)