



NH School Health Inspection Program

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Introductions

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Why Have a School Health Inspection Program?

- Children need a clean, healthy, and safe environment to learn.
- Unsanitary conditions in schools could lead to public health problems in the community.

Who Is Responsible for Healthy Schools?

- School Officials (RSA 189:24 and RSA 281-A)
- NH Department of Education (RSA 189)
- Local Health Officers (RSA 128:5)

Which Schools are included in the School Health Inspection Program?

The NH Department of Education School Health Inspection Program includes:

- Public Schools,
- Public Charter Schools, and
- Private Schools.

Child Care Centers are regulated by the NH Health and Human Services Department (DHHS).

How Often are School Health Inspections Required?

- Public K - 12 – Once every 5 years.
- Public Charter K - 12 – Once every 5 years.*
- Private K - 12 – Once every 3 – 5 years.

*This was changed in January 2011.

What does a Health Inspection Include?

PART 1

- Review the other inspection reports, if applicable:
 - Asbestos (pre 1990 facilities),
 - Water and septic,
 - Furnace,
 - Elevator lift, swimming pool, and animal vaccinations.
- Review the school's self-inspection forms for:
 - Playgrounds and sports fields,
 - Science labs and art rooms; and
 - Dormitories.

What does a Health Inspection Include?

PART 2

- Walk through and inspect school facilities including:
 - Modular buildings,
 - Grounds,
 - Off-site program facilities, and
 - Dormitories, if applicable.
- Complete and submit Health Inspection Form to School Officials.

Sections of Health Inspection Form

Part I - Identification and Instructions

Part II - Checklist

- General Conditions Throughout Building
- Water and Septic Systems
- Toilet Facilities
- Food Preparation and Dining Areas
- Other (animals, smoking signs, self-inspection forms)

Part III - Approval Status

Part III of Health Inspection Form

Please check one of the options below. This building/area:

___ Is **Approved.**

___ Has **Conditional Approval (CA).** Items need attention.

___ Is **Not Approved.** Items must be resolved very soon or the school faces closure.

Other Considerations

- The inspection is a snapshot in time.
- Some schools are very large and these inspections take time.
- Health Officer expertise varies.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?



GO RED SOX !