

Some schools have reported to the Indiana Department of Health that they have historically checked employee vaccination status in CHIRP if there is an outbreak of a vaccine preventable illness.

CHIRP may only be accessed in accordance with IC 16-38-5-3. Elementary and secondary schools are authorized by Indiana code to access CHIRP for individuals who attend the school. Providers, which include nurses, may also access CHIRP, but they should only be accessing information for individuals for whom they have provider/patient relationship (students). Schools should not access CHIRP to obtain the vaccination status of any staff (such as teachers, administrators, aides, and janitors) at the school because it is not authorized by IC 16-38-5-3.

IC 16-38-5-3

(c) Subject to subsection (d), the state department may release information in the immunization data registry concerning an individual to the following persons or entities:

- (1) The immunization data registry of another state.
- (2) A provider or a provider's designee.
- (3) A local health department.
- (4) An elementary or secondary school that is attended by the individual.
- (5) A child care center that is licensed under [IC 12-17.2-4](#) in which the individual is enrolled.
- (6) A child care home that is licensed under [IC 12-17.2-5](#) in which the individual is enrolled.
- (7) A child care ministry that is registered under [IC 12-17.2-6](#) in which the individual is enrolled.
- (8) The office of Medicaid policy and planning or a contractor of the office of Medicaid policy and planning.
- (9) A child placing agency licensed under [IC 31-27](#).
- (10) A college or university (as defined in [IC 21-7-13-10](#)) that is attended by the individual.
- (11) An entity, including a private entity, for the purpose of outreach and education to increase immunization rates, if the following conditions are met:
 - (A) The entity provides the following written information to the state department:
 - (i) Information concerning the proposed outreach and education, including the information the entity needs from the immunization data registry.
 - (ii) How the entity intends to use the information.
 - (iii) The safeguards the entity will take to protect the identity of each individual whose records will be released.
 - (B) The state department determines the proposed safeguards are adequate to protect the identity of each individual whose records will be released.
 - (C) An agreement is executed between the state department and the entity that specifies the entity's permitted use of the records and prohibits the release of names of individuals or any facts that may lead to the identification of an individual.
- (12) The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- (13) An Indiana nonprofit entity that performs health data services for health care providers, if the state department executes a data use agreement with the entity that specifies the permitted use and disclosure of any released information.

Options for Schools in Preparation for a Case/Outbreak Investigation

1. Employees may offer to provide their immunization status to the school to be used in case of future communicable disease outbreaks.
2. Employees may consent to allow the school nurse access to their immunization status in CHIRP to verify their immunization status in the event of an outbreak.
3. Schools will report communicable disease cases to the local health department which may look up immunization status in accordance with 410 IAC 1-2.5 to conduct further investigation for suspect cases and outbreaks.

