



Health Highlights

Clark County Health Department - Information for Schools & Child Care



Extracurricular Activities Benefit Youth Mental Health

The Wisconsin Office of Children's Mental Health (OCMH) detailed the connections between extracurricular activities and youth mental health in its most recent [Fact Sheet](#), finding that kids who participate in extracurriculars such as lessons, sports, afterschool clubs, or community service tend to have better mental health.

Extracurriculars are organized activities that teach important life skills like teamwork, interpersonal communication, and stress management, which in turn bolster kids' well-being and improve their lifetime outcomes.

The fact sheet highlights the mental health and economic benefit of afterschool programming and urges policymakers to bolster the sector by providing a dedicated funding stream.

- See the [Fact Sheet](#) for further recommendations.
 - See all [OCMH Fact Sheets](#).
 - [Rhinelander Success Story - ArtStart](#)
 - See all [OCMH Showcasing Solutions](#)
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Health Highlights



Annual School Webinar for 2025-2026 and School Immunization Assessment Updates

Department of Health Services Immunization Program staff, along with Louis Wilson from the Department of Public Instruction, will be holding a webinar on the Wisconsin Student Immunization Law on **Monday, August 25, 2025 at 10:30am.**

The webinar will cover the 2025-2026 school year reporting requirements. It will be recorded and posted for those who are unable to listen.

Click [here](#) to join the webinar.

Resources for the 2025-2026 school year have been updated on the [DHS School Immunization](#) website.

Corrine **highly recommends** that all staff who complete the school immunization law requirements participate in the webinar or watch the recording.

Measles and COVID-19

Nine cases of measles have been confirmed in Oconto County. All of cases were exposed to a common source during out-of-state travel. These are the first cases identified in Wisconsin in 2025. This is an ongoing investigation. Updates will be posted to the [DHS Outbreaks and Investigations](#) website, or you can click [here](#) for more information.

Please reference previous Health Highlights at the Clark County Health Department [Resources](#) page to learn more about preparing for measles in school districts and child care centers.

DHS sends out weekly respiratory virus data via email. Click [here](#) to subscribe. Click [here](#) for more information on respiratory virus data in Wisconsin.

COVID-19 cases in Wisconsin are starting to slowly rise, while cases in the Southern United States are starting to rise at faster rates ([CDC COVID Data Tracker](#)). Rates in the United States have not been at the current level since January/February 2025.





Health Highlights

2024-2025 Vaccination Rates and School Compliance Results

New DHS data shows that school year vaccination rates held steady for 2024-2025 school year. Data from the 2024-2025 school year shows that 86.4% of students met the minimum immunization requirements, a decrease from the previous school year. Unfamiliarity with the new meningitis vaccination requirement for students in grades 7 to 12 is behind the decrease. When looking at students' vaccination data without the new meningococcal requirement, 89.3% of students met the minimum vaccination requirements (0.1% increase from previous school year). For more information, click [here](#).

Why is this data collected? School vaccination data helps show that there are children in schools who are not protected from an outbreak of preventable diseases. Public health strongly recommends that 95% of populations are vaccinated to prevent outbreaks against certain diseases. Data collected helps determine where local communities sit with their vaccination rates.

Data is now available for the 2024-2025 school immunization assessment compliance results on the [Department of Health Services Immunization Requirements](#) webpage.

- [Public School Compliance Rates](#)
- [Private School Compliance Rates](#)
- [Statewide Summary](#)
- [Statewide Trend](#)
- [School-Level](#)
- [District-Level](#)
- [County-Level](#)



2024-2025 School Immunization Assessment Compliance Results - Highlights

Wisconsin

- 86.4% of students met the minimum immunization requirements (received vaccines)
- 6.7% of students had a waiver for one or more immunizations
- 1.3% of students waived all vaccinations

Clark County

- **65%** of students met the minimum immunization requirements (received vaccines)
- **78%** of students met minimum MMR requirements
- **32%** of students had a waiver for one or more immunizations
- **13%** of students waived all vaccines

Clark County Schools - Compliance*

- Abbotsford: 99.25%
- Colby: 90.69%
- Colby St. Mary's: 98.23%
- Granton: 100%
- Greenwood: 98.48%
- Loyal: 90.6%
- Loyal St. Anthony's: 100%
- Neillsville: 93.98%
- Neillsville St. John's: 100%
- Owen-Withee: 100%
- Thorp: 99.81%
- Thorp Catholic: 100%

*% of Students Compliant with Immunization Law (Met the minimum requirements, are in process, or have waiver on file.)



Health Highlights



Celebrating Three Years of 988

Three years after launching, the [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline](#) continues to offer 24/7 lifesaving help to people who reach out through calls, texts, and chats. With state funding secured over the next two years, they remain committed to providing judgement-free support. Visit the [988 Wisconsin data dashboard](#) to see information on the accomplishments of the last three years. You can use the [988 promotional toolkit](#) to help spread awareness of this resource.

Mandated Reporting Training for School Employees

DPI has released an updated training for school staff as mandated reporters of child abuse and neglect. To provide clarity for staff on some main information for reporters, DPI is providing a handout on an Overview of Key Information. Additionally, for school leaders and interested parties, DPI is providing a document outlining the reasons for changes and an administrator guide for implementing training for employees.

- [Overview of Key Information](#)
- [Background on Revisions to Content](#)
- [Administrator Implementation Guide](#)

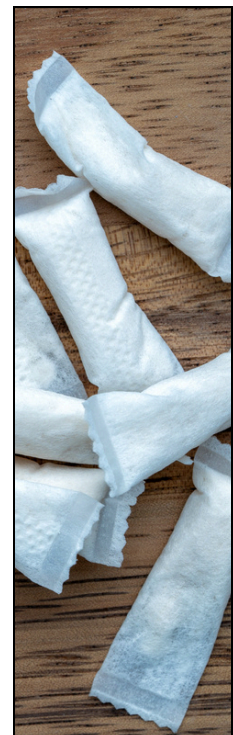


Nicotine Prevention Options for Youth-Serving Organizations

Click [here](#) for a resource regarding youth nicotine prevention options. It was compiled by the Nicotine Prevention Alliance of Central WI, and includes "Alternative to Suspension & Citation", "Cessation", "Curriculum", and "Contact Information & Additional Resources".

Triple Threat: Why Nicotine Use on Campus is About to Skyrocket

1. Vaping dosages have increased dramatically over the last year. In the spring of 2024, a high-dose vape pen consisted of 15,000 puffs. Currently, that number is 50,000 puffs.
2. The price of many of these items have remained the same, and in some cases has dropped.
3. Nicotine Pouches - they don't produce any water vapor or aerosol, and do not contain any detectable metal; making vape detectors and metal detectors useless. These pouches can contain more nicotine than vape pens, are more discreet (no odor or mist), and come in various "fun" flavors. Click [here](#) for more information.





Health Highlights

Parental Controls on Devices

To effectively use parental controls, parents should set them up on all devices their child uses, regularly review and update them, and consider them alongside other online safety strategies. Specific tips include using built-in parental controls on devices, exploring apps like [Family Link](#) and [Apple Screen Time](#), and establishing family policies for screen time and device usage.

[Clark County Community Services](#) has created fact sheets in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#) regarding parental controls, which includes tips for parents, suggested parental control apps, and features to look for.



Walmart Foundation Spark Good Local Grants

Walmart believes that investing in local communities strengthens their business as well as the communities they serve. Local grants are designed to support local organizations that meet the unique needs of the communities where Walmarts operate, build pride among all associates, and deepen relationships with their customers. Each year, Walmart U.S. stores, Sam's Clubs, and Distribution Centers award local cash grants ranging from \$250 to \$5,000. Applications are accepted and reviewed on a quarterly basis. The next dates are:

- August 1st - October 15th, 2025
- November 3rd - December 31st, 2025

Grants are open to 501(c)(3) organizations, municipalities, schools, faith-based organizations, etc. Click [here](#) for more information.



Health Highlights

Air Quality Alerts

Those with heart and/or lung disease, older adults, children and teenagers, pregnant individuals, and outdoor workers are at greater risk for serious health problems when the air quality index is high. Poor air quality can cause asthma attacks, coughing, wheezing, heart attacks, strokes, and sometimes early death.

You can monitor air quality at the following resources:

- [AirNow.gov](https://airnow.gov)
- [Wisconsin Air Quality Monitoring Data \(Wisconsin DNR\)](#)
- [Air Quality Health Advisories \(Color Chart\)](#)



UW-Extension Classes

Learn the best of what science can offer parents and families and choose what works for you. They offer classes about child and family development, including parenting. Attend in-person or online. All of the classes are research-based, non-formal and available to the public. All are free or low cost. Click [here](#) for more information.



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