



Mark A. Hackel  
County Executive

## MACOMB COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### Mount Clemens Health Center

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[www.macombgov.org/publichealth](http://www.macombgov.org/publichealth)

William J. Ridella, M.P.H., M.B.A.  
Director/Health Officer

Kevin P. Lokar, M.D.  
Medical Director

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Since 1978, the State of Michigan has required children to be age-appropriately vaccinated to enroll in school or childcare programs. Vaccination exemptions or waivers have been permitted for valid medical reasons (medical waivers) and for religious or philosophical beliefs (nonmedical waivers).

In December 2014, Michigan modified the administrative rules that outline vaccination requirements. The new rules now require parents/guardians seeking a nonmedical waiver for their child to go to a local health department for education and waiver certification. Nonmedical waiver forms are no longer available at individual schools and childcare programs.

The Macomb County Health Department will provide one-on-one education with a public health nurse and waiver certification for Macomb County residents and for out-of-county residents who have a child attending a Macomb County school or childcare program. Appointments are required and will last approximately 15-20 minutes. The benefits of vaccination and the risks of vaccine-preventable diseases will be discussed so that parents/guardians can make an informed decision.

If you are considering a nonmedical waiver for your child, we encourage you to make an appointment as soon as possible. Appointments will be scheduled on a first-come, first-serve basis, and will become limited as the new school year approaches. If you have questions or would like to make an appointment, please contact the Macomb County Health Department School Immunization Program at (586) 466-6840.

Sincerely,

William J. Ridella, M.P.H., M.B.A.  
Director/Health Officer

Kevin P. Lokar, M.D., M.P.H.  
Medical Director