

**PUBLIC HEALTH CODE (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 368 of 1978**

**333.9316 Dental oral assessment program; contractual agreements for assessments; information required; registration of child for kindergarten or first grade; statement of exemption required; summary of dental reports; subject to appropriation.**

Sec. 9316. (1) The department shall establish and maintain a dental oral assessment program to provide dental oral assessments to children residing in this state whose parents, guardians, or persons in loco parentis have not met the requirements described in subsection (5)(a).

(2) Subject to subsection (3), the department shall accomplish the program by contracting with a government entity or person, which may include a grantee health agency described in section 16625. The following apply to the government entity or person selected by the department under this subsection:

(a) The government entity or person shall conduct the program in each area served by a local health department and shall publicize the dental oral assessment service and the time and place of the clinics.

(b) A dental oral assessment administered under the program must include a limited clinical inspection, performed by a dentist or a dental hygienist, to identify possible signs of oral or systemic disease, malformation, or injury, and the potential need for referral for diagnosis and treatment.

(3) If a school district has entered into a contract with a government entity or person to administer dental oral assessments to the school district's students, the school district may continue to use the government entity or person to conduct the dental oral assessments if the school district ensures that the dental oral assessments are conducted by May 31 of each year and the requirements of subsections (4) and (7) are met.

(4) When the result of a dental oral assessment indicates that a child requires follow-up care, the dentist or dental hygienist or government entity or person conducting the assessment shall present to the individual bringing the child a written statement clearly indicating that follow-up treatment is required and, upon request, provide information concerning the availability and sources of dental treatment required to eliminate or reduce an identified problem.

(5) Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, a parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis applying to have a child registered for the first time in kindergarten or first grade in a school in this state shall comply with the following:

(a) Have a dentist or dental hygienist conduct a dental oral assessment on the child not earlier than 6 months before the date of the child's registration with the school and obtain from the dentist or dental hygienist a written statement certifying that the child has received the dental oral assessment within the time frame required under this subdivision. The written statement must be on a form prescribed by the department.

(b) If the parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis of the child does not meet the requirements described in subdivision (a), the parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis of the child shall have the government entity or person selected by the department under subsection (2) conduct a dental oral assessment on the child.

(6) Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, a parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis applying to have a child registered for the first time in 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 statement of exemption under section 9311; the statement described in subsection (5); or a written statement indicating that the parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis of the child will provide for the child's dental oral assessment by a government entity or person selected by the department under subsection (2). A child shall not be excluded from school attendance if the parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis of the child does not present a statement to school officials on or before the first day of school as required under this section.

(7) Before November 1 of each year, the principal or administrator of each school shall give the department a summary of the dental reports at the time of school entry of new kindergarten and first grade students. The reports must be made on forms provided or approved by the department.

(8) This section does not apply in a fiscal year in which the legislature does not appropriate money for the program.

(9) As used in this section, "program" means the dental oral assessment program described in subsection (1).

**History:** Add. 2020, Act 261, Eff. Mar. 29, 2021;—Am. 2023, Act 316, Imd. Eff. Dec. 14, 2023.

**Popular name:** Act 368