

Health Services

Disease Control

State Register Document No. 4704, Proposed Amendment of R.61-22, The Evaluation of School Employees for Tuberculosis

Synopsis:

The Department has conducted a review of Regulation 61-22 pertaining to the evaluation and screening for tuberculosis for those working in schools and child care centers. As a result of the review, the Department has substantially amended R.61-22 in order to simplify and clarify the tuberculosis screening and evaluation requirements for schools and child care centers and to significantly reduce the financial and human resources burden on schools and child care centers created in prior revisions to R. 61-22, all while affording children greater protection against exposure to tuberculosis in these settings. The amendments herein include the Department's effort to incorporate current tuberculosis evaluation and preventive treatment guidelines, update the screening and evaluation requirements for those working and volunteering in schools and child care centers, clarify language relating to the issuance of evaluation certificates, and provide for consistency with applicable state and federal laws. The title of the Regulation will also be revised.

Legislative review is required.

Status:

The Department initiated the statutory process to amend R.61-22 by publication of a Notice of Drafting in the S.C. State Register on August 26, 2016; the drafting comment period closed September 26, 2016. On October 13, 2016 the DHEC Board approved staff's request to publicly notice the proposed regulations. A Notice of Proposed Regulation with notice of opportunity for public comment was published in the State Register as Document No. 4704 on October 28, 2016. After public hearing December 8, 2016, the DHEC Board found for the need and reasonableness of the proposed regulations and approved them for legislative review. The revised regulation was filed with the Legislative Council State Register Office December 14, 2016, processed and verified, and submitted to the General Assembly for review. The revised regulation and legislative status can be viewed on the S.C Legislature Online website at <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/regs/4704.docx>. For additional information contact Melissa C. Overman, DO, MPH, CHES, FAOCOPM, Assistant State Epidemiologist, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2100 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201 or via email at OVERMAMC@dhec.sc.gov.