



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

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Commissioner

September 10, 2013

**Please share with School
Nurses and Non-Public
School Nursing Providers.**

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School Lead Persons
Non-Public School Administrators
Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

FROM: Susan Martz, Acting Assistant Commissioner
Division of Student and Field Services

SUBJECT: Scholastic Student-Athlete Safety Act

This is to advise you that Governor Christie signed the *Scholastic Student-Athlete Safety Act* (P.L. 2013, c.71) on June 27, 2013, effective November 1, 2013. The intent of the Act is to establish measures to ensure the health of student athletes in public and nonpublic schools including:

- Use of a "Preparticipation Physical Evaluation" (PPE) form developed jointly by designated organizations;
- Development of a professional development module to increase the assessment skills of those health care practitioners who perform the student athlete physical examinations;
- Certification by the health care practitioner, who completes the PPE, and the school physician who reviews and approves the PPE that they have completed the module;
- Inclusion of a statement of assurance in the contract between the school district and the school physician that the school physician has completed the module; and
- Distribution of a pamphlet about sudden cardiac arrest provided by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) to parents of student athletes and receipt of a written certification from parents that they received and reviewed the pamphlet.

The NJDOE, in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Health, is convening the required organizations to produce the professional development module for completion by physicians, advanced practice nurses and physician assistants who conduct student athlete pre-participation physical examinations, as well as a certification statement signifying successful completion of the professional development module that must be printed and provided to the school district. Additionally, the group will review and revise, as appropriate, the Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes brochure required by *N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41*.

The Department will advise districts when the training module, brochure and new forms are available. In the mean time, schools are required to continue to use the Annual Athletic Pre-Participation Physical Examination form (<http://www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/health/records/>) and the Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes brochure available at: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/health/services/cardiac.pdf>.

Should you have any questions regarding the Act, please send an email to schoolhealthservices@doe.state.nj.us.

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c: Members, State Board of Education
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