

January 7, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of Freshman/9th graders, class of 2023:

A new state law has expanded the requirement for a dental exam to include 9th graders for the **2019/2020 school year**. The final deadline to show proof of a dental exam is May 15, 2020.

Illinois law (Child Health Examination Code, 77 Ill. Adm. Code 665) states all children in kindergarten and the second, sixth and **ninth grades** of any public, private or parochial school shall have a dental examination. The examination must have taken place **within 18 months prior to May 15** of the school year. A licensed dentist must complete the examination, sign and date this Proof of School Dental Examination Form. If you are unable to get this required examination for your child, fill out a separate **Dental Examination Waiver Form**.

This important examination will let you know if there are any dental problems that need attention by a dentist. Children need good oral health to speak with confidence, express themselves, be healthy and ready to learn. Poor oral health has been related to lower school performance, poor social relationships, and less success later in life. For this reason, we thank you for making this contribution to the health and well-being of your child.

The IDPH Oral Health page has additional information as well as forms that could be helpful as well: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/prevention-wellness/oral-health>

I have enclosed the dental forms, as well as the waiver forms. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Denise Birkner RN
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Willowbrook High School
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