

Medical Forms FAQ

Q. There are 3 parts to the Annual Health and Medical Record, which part do I need to fill out?

A. All participants should fill out Parts A and C for any event. Part B (the physical examination) should be completed if you are participating in an event that exceeds 72 consecutive hours, such as jamborees, summer camps, and Wood Badge training courses. Part B also is required for participation in a resident camp or when the activity is strenuous and demanding such as service projects, work weekends, or high-adventure treks.

Q. How often will I need to renew/update my Annual Health and Medical Record?

A. This form will need to be updated annually, just as many schools or sporting leagues require an annual update.

Q. Do I really need to explain everything about myself or my child, such as learning disabilities or depression? I don't want myself or my child to be treated differently.

A. As hard as it may be to share these aspects about yourself or your child, this information is needed to structure safe activities and is imperative when giving emergency care. Please be thorough and honest. Our experience also indicates that a Scouting activity is not the place to experiment with or stop medications, especially those that address these issues. This information is held in confidence.

Q. What if I don't want to have my child immunized for tetanus or other immunizations due to religious or philosophical reasons, do I have to sign a release?

A. Yes, the recommendations of the immunization task force were accepted by the Health and Safety Support Committee in October 2008 and are listed on Scouting.org under Scouting Safely. If you choose not have your child immunized, the release form can also be found there. Declining or inadequate immunizations will require verification by a certified and licensed physician (MD, DO), NPs, or Pas) that a communicable disease is not present.

Q. Can I use another medical exam, such as a school sports exam, and attach it to the Annual Health and Medical Record?

A. No. In an effort to maintain standards of preparedness and fitness for participation, and to make sure that the medical professional conducting the examination knows the various outdoor adventures than can occur in Scouting, the BSA requires completion of Part B. Part B also includes the height/weight chart for high adventure situation where emergency medical care is not readily available.

Q. Why is there a talent release on the Annual Health and Medical Record? It doesn't really have anything to do with health.

A. In response to requests from several councils to eliminate paperwork, we have included the talent release as part of the Annual Health and Medical Record.