

# 2017-2018 School Immunization Requirements



*You wouldn't drive your kids to school without their seatbelt.*

*Don't send them to school without their shots.*



## **Vaccines keep kids safe in schools**

Around the country, there are more cases of preventable diseases because parents are choosing not to get their kids immunized against preventable diseases. These diseases can spread easily in schools, but the good news is that vaccines are a safe and effective way of protecting your child.

## **Your child must be up-to-date on their shots to attend school**

Your child must have at least one dose of all the required vaccinations – or the school can exclude them from attending. If your child isn't up-to-date on their shots, you'll have 5 days from the start of school to get the next dose, and provide a medical plan to get up-to-date.

## **Schedule a doctor's appointment this summer**

Don't wait until school starts. Make a doctor's appointment. The doctor can see if your kid has the shots they need to attend school, and schedule any shots that your kid still needs.

# SCHOOL VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTENDANCE IN PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOLS

## FOR ATTENDANCE IN ALL GRADES CHILDREN NEED THE FOLLOWING:



- 4 doses of tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis\* (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- 4 doses of polio (4th dose on or after 4th birthday and at least 6 months after previous dose given)\*\*
- 2 doses of measles, mumps, rubella\*\*\*
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or evidence of immunity

*\*Usually given as DTP or DTaP or if medically advisable, DT or Td*

*\*\* A fourth dose is not necessary if the third dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose*

*\*\*\*Usually given as MMR*

**ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**, unless the child has a medical or religious/philosophical exemption, a child must have had at least one dose of the above vaccinations or risk exclusion.

• If a child does not have all the doses listed above, needs additional doses, and the next dose is medically appropriate, the child must receive that dose within the first five days of school or risk exclusion. If the next dose is not the final dose of the series, the child must also provide a medical plan (red and white card) within the first five days of school for obtaining the required immunizations or risk exclusion.

• If a child does not have all the doses listed above, needs additional doses, and the next dose is not medically appropriate, the child must provide a medical plan (red and white card) within the first five days of school for obtaining the required immunizations or risk exclusion.

• The medical plan must be followed or risk exclusion.



## FOR ATTENDANCE IN 7TH GRADE:

- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap), on the first day of 7th grade.
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV) on the first day of 7th grade.

**ON THE FIRST DAY OF 7TH GRADE**, unless the child has a medical or religious/philosophical exemption, a child must have had the above vaccines or risk exclusion.

## FOR ATTENDANCE IN 12TH GRADE:

- 1 dose of MCV on the first day of 12th grade. If one dose was given at 16 years of age or older, that shall count as the twelfth grade dose.

**ON THE FIRST DAY OF 12TH GRADE**, unless the child has a medical or religious/philosophical exemption, a child must have had the above vaccines or risk exclusion.

**The vaccines required for entrance, 7th grade and 12th grade continue to be required in each succeeding school year.**

These requirements allow for the following exemptions: medical reason, religious belief, or philosophical/strong moral or ethical conviction. Even if your child is exempt from immunizations, he or she may be excluded from school during an outbreak of vaccine preventable disease.

Pennsylvania's school immunization requirements can be found in 28 Pa. CODE CH. 23 (School Immunization). Contact your healthcare provider or call 1-877-PA-HEALTH for more information.



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# ➤ All Grades

- ✓ 4 doses of tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis\*  
(1 dose on or after the 4 birthday)
- ✓ 4 doses of polio  
(4 dose on or after 4 birthday and at least 6 months after previous dose given) \*\*
- ✓ 2 doses of measles, mumps, rubella \*\*\*
- ✓ 3 doses of hepatitis B
- ✓ 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or evidence of immunity

\* Usually given as DTP or DTaP or DT or Td

\*\* A 4th dose not necessary if the 3rd dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose

\*\*\* Usually given as MMR