



# Parents of Children in or Entering Preschool & Grades K-12

## Why Your Child Needs Shots

Children must meet immunization requirements as stated in Idaho law to attend school. To meet legal requirements, a record with evidence that children are up-to-date on their immunizations (shots) or a valid immunization exemption must be provided and kept on file at the school. When children are in group settings, there is the potential for the spread of infectious diseases. Diseases like chickenpox, measles, and whooping cough spread quickly, so children need to be protected before they enter preschool and grades K-12.

## What You Need at Registration

You will need to present your child's immunization record or a valid immunization exemption to the school at the time of registration to enroll your child. The immunization record must show the date (month, day, and year) your child was given each shot. If you do not have an immunization record or your child has not received all required shots, call your doctor or local public health agency for an appointment.

## Required Shots for School

| MINIMUM IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ENTRY BY GRADE                                    |  |  |   |
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|  | Kindergarten <sup>1</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade  | 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade - 11 <sup>th</sup> Grade   | 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade  |
| <b>Children born after September 1, 1999 through September 1, 2005</b> must have a minimum of: | (5) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) <sup>2</sup><br>(2) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)<br>(3) Polio <sup>3</sup><br>(3) Hepatitis B   | (5) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) <sup>2</sup><br>(2) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)<br>(3) Polio <sup>3</sup><br>(3) Hepatitis B<br><b>(1) Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap)</b><br><b>(1) Meningococcal (MenACWY)</b>   | (5) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) <sup>2</sup><br>(2) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)<br>(3) Polio <sup>3</sup><br>(3) Hepatitis B<br>(1) Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap)<br><b>(2) Meningococcal (MenACWY)<sup>5</sup></b>   |
| <b>Children born after September 1, 2005<sup>1</sup></b> must have a minimum of:               | (5) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) <sup>2</sup><br>(2) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)<br>(4) Polio <sup>3</sup><br>(3) Hepatitis B<br>(2) Varicella (Chickenpox) <sup>4</sup><br>(2) Hepatitis A | (5) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) <sup>2</sup><br>(2) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)<br>(4) Polio <sup>3</sup><br>(3) Hepatitis B<br>(2) Varicella (Chickenpox) <sup>4</sup><br>(2) Hepatitis A<br><b>(1) Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap)</b><br><b>(1) Meningococcal (MenACWY)</b> | (5) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) <sup>2</sup><br>(2) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)<br>(4) Polio <sup>3</sup><br>(3) Hepatitis B<br>(2) Varicella (Chickenpox) <sup>4</sup><br>(2) Hepatitis A<br>(1) Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap)<br><b>(2) Meningococcal (MenACWY)<sup>5</sup></b> |

1. Preschool children need only be age-appropriately immunized with the required vaccines.
2. DTaP: The 5<sup>th</sup> dose is not necessary if the 4<sup>th</sup> dose was administered at age 4 years or older **and** at least 6 months after previous dose.
3. Polio: The 4<sup>th</sup> dose is not necessary if the 3<sup>rd</sup> dose was administered at age 4 years or older **and** at least 6 months after previous dose. For children born after 9/1/2005, at least one dose of polio should be given at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose.
4. Varicella: History of chickenpox disease documented by a physician or licensed health care professional meets the requirement.
5. Children should have one dose of meningococcal (Men ACWY) vaccine before the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. A second dose of Men ACWY is required prior to admission into the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. However, if a child received their first Men ACWY vaccine at age 16 years or older, no additional MenACWY doses are needed for 12<sup>th</sup> grade admission.

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If your child's record is missing any immunizations, contact your health care provider to obtain the full immunization record or any doses needed. If your child recently received immunizations and needs an immunization later in the year to meet requirements, they may attend school, provided you complete the Conditional Admission form and get the remaining doses when they are due. If you would like to exempt your child from immunization requirements, you may complete a form provided by the school or provide a signed written statement that includes the name of your child, the child's birthdate, and the type of exemption being claimed, either religious or other. For a medical exemption, you must provide a certification signed by a licensed physician stating the medical reason the child cannot be immunized.

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**Reference**

Idaho Code 39-4801; Idaho Administrative Procedures Act (Administrative Code), IDAPA 16.02.15  
"Immunization Requirements for Idaho School Children"

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