

Are Your Kids Ready?

Minnesota's Immunization Law

Immunization Requirements

The following immunizations are required beginning Sept. 1, 2014.

To enter into child care, early childhood programs, and elementary or secondary schools (public or private), children need to have certain immunizations. Use this chart as a quick reference to determine which vaccines are required for enrollment. See below for exemption information.

| Birth through 4 years Early childhood programs & Child care | Age: 5 through 6 years ² For Kindergarten | Age: 7 through 11 years For 1st through 6 th grade | Age: 12 years and older For 7 th through 12 th grade |
|--|---|--|---|
| Hepatitis A | | | |
| Hepatitis B | Hepatitis B 3 doses | Hepatitis B 3 doses | Hepatitis B ³ 3 doses |
| DTaP/DT | DTaP 5 doses 5 th shot not needed if 4 th was after age 4 | At least 3 tetanus and diphtheria containing doses | Tdap ⁴ at age 11-12 years |
| Polio | Polio 4 doses 4 th polio not needed if 3 rd was after age 4 | Polio At least 3 doses | Polio At least 3 doses |
| MMR | MMR 2 doses | MMR 2 doses | MMR 2 doses |
| Hib <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b | | | Meningococcal ⁵ at age 11-12 years |
| Pneumococcal age 2-24 months | | | |
| Varicella ¹ | Varicella ¹ 2 doses | Varicella ¹ 2 doses | Varicella ¹ 2 doses |

Immunizations recommended but not required by the Immunization Law:

Influenza

Recommended annually for all children age 6 months and older

Rotavirus

Recommended for infants

Human papillomavirus

Recommended at age 11 years

¹ If the child has already had chickenpox disease, varicella shots are not required. If the disease occurred after 2010, the child's doctor must sign a form.

² First graders who are 6 years old and younger must follow the polio and DTaP/DT schedules for kindergarten.

³ An alternate 2-shot schedule of hepatitis B may also be used for kids from age 11 through 15 years.

⁴ Proof of at least three doses of diphtheria and tetanus vaccination needed. If a child received Tdap at age 7-10 years another dose is not needed at age 11-12 years. However, if it was only a Td a Tdap dose at age 11-12 years is needed.

⁵ A booster dose is required at age 16 years or three years later if the first dose was given between age 13-15 years.

Exemptions

To go to school in Minnesota, students must show they've had these immunizations or file a legal exemption with the school.

Parents may file a medical exemption signed by a health care provider or a conscientious objection signed by a parent/guardian and notarized.

Looking for Vaccination Records?

For copies of your child's vaccination records, talk to your doctor or call the Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC) at 651-201-5503 or 1-800-657-3970.



Immunization Program
PO Box 64975
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975
651-201-5503 or 1-800-657-3970
www.health.state.mn.us/immunize

Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and the Vaccines that Prevent Them

Vaccines required to enter into child care, early childhood programs, and elementary or secondary schools (public or private).

| Vaccine/Disease | Disease spread by | Disease symptoms | Disease complications |
|---|---|--|---|
| DTaP or Tdap vaccine protects against diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus | Diphtheria: Air, direct contact Pertussis: Air, direct contact Tetanus: Exposure through cuts in skin | Diphtheria: Sore throat, mild fever, weakness, swollen glands in neck Pertussis: Severe cough, runny nose, apnea (a pause in breathing in infants) Tetanus: Stiffness in neck and abdominal muscles, difficulty swallowing, muscle spasms, fever | Diphtheria: Swelling of the heart muscle, heart failure, coma, paralysis, death Pertussis: Pneumonia (infection in the lungs), brain damage, death Tetanus: Broken bones, breathing difficulty, death |
| Hib vaccine protects against <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b | Direct contact, air | May be no symptoms unless bacteria enters the blood | Meningitis (infection of the covering around the brain and spinal cord), shock due to blood infection, swelling of the throat that can lead to serious breathing problems, pneumonia, death |
| Hep A vaccine protects against hepatitis A | Direct contact, contaminated food or water | Fever, stomach pain, loss of appetite, fatigue, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), dark urine or no symptoms | Liver failure, joint pain, kidney, pancreatic, and blood disorders |
| Hep B vaccine protects against hepatitis B | Contact with blood or body fluids | Fever, headache, weakness, vomiting, jaundice, joint pain, or no symptoms | Chronic liver infection, cirrhosis, liver failure, liver cancer |
| MMR vaccine protects against measles, mumps, and rubella | Air, direct contact | Measles: High fever, cough, runny nose, red watery eyes, rash Mumps: Swollen salivary glands (under the jaw), fever, headache, tiredness, muscle pain Rubella: Rash, fever, swollen lymph nodes | Measles: Seizures, ear infection, brain swelling, pneumonia, death Mumps: Meningitis, brain swelling, deafness, swelling of testicles or ovaries Rubella: Very serious in pregnant women—can lead to miscarriage, stillbirth, premature delivery, birth defects |
| MCV vaccine protects against meningococcal | Air, direct contact | Severe headache, fever, nausea, vomiting, bruising rash, confusion, extreme sleepiness | Blood infections, amputation, deafness, nervous system problems, developmental disabilities, seizures, death |
| PCV vaccine protects against pneumococcal | Air, direct contact | Fever, cough or difficulty breathing, weakness, severe headache or irritability, or no symptoms | Blood infections, meningitis, pneumonia, death |
| Polio vaccine protects against polio | Direct contact, through the mouth, air | Sore throat, fever, nausea, headache, leg weakness, or no symptoms | Paralysis, death |
| Varicella vaccine protects against chickenpox | Air, direct contact | Itchy rash, fever, tiredness, headache | Skin infection, bleeding disorders, brain swelling, pneumonia |

Vaccines recommended but not required by the Immunization Law

| Vaccine/Disease | Disease spread by | Disease symptoms | Disease complications |
|--|-----------------------|---|---|
| HPV vaccine protects against human papillomavirus | Sex, intimate contact | Warts on genitals, or no symptoms | Cervical, vaginal, or vulvar cancer in females; penile cancer in males; anal or oral cancer and genital warts in males and females. Need for treatment of cervical precancers in females. |
| Flu vaccine protects against influenza | Air, direct contact | Fever, muscle pain, sore throat, cough, extreme fatigue | Pneumonia, death |
| Rotavirus vaccine protects against rotavirus | Through the mouth | Diarrhea, fever, vomiting | Dehydration, collapse |