

# GUIDE TO THE IDAHO IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR 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 ([39-4801](#)) 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 to Provide

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

Review your child’s immunization record to make sure you have a date for each shot required for school. Please note most children need booster shots before starting kindergarten. For more information, please reference [IDAPA 16.02.15](#).

### MINIMUM IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ENTRY BY GRADE

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

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

If your child recently received immunizations and needs an immunization later in the year to meet requirements, they may attend, provided you complete the Schedule of Intended Immunizations Form, or one similar, and get the remaining doses when they are due. If you would like to exempt ([39-4802](#)) 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 the child, the child’s birthdate, and vaccines they are exempt from. For a medical exemption, you must provide a certification signed by a licensed physician attesting the child cannot be vaccinated due to a medical condition.