



K - 12th Grade School-required Immunizations for the 2019-20 School Year

Dear parents and guardians of students in Colorado kindergarten - 12th grade schools:

- Colorado law requires students who attend a public, private or parochial kindergarten - 12th grade school to be vaccinated against many of the diseases vaccines can prevent. Your student must be vaccinated against:
 - diphtheria, tetanus & pertussis (DTaP, DTP, Tdap)
 - polio (IPV)
 - measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
 - hepatitis B (HepB)
 - varicella (chickenpox)
- Vaccines are recommended for hepatitis A, influenza, meningococcal disease and human papillomavirus, but are not required.
- Colorado rule requires students entering kindergarten to receive their final doses of DTaP, IPV, MMR and varicella. Students entering 6th grade must receive one dose of Tdap vaccine, even if they are under 11 years of age.
- The number, timing and spacing of the required vaccine doses is set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). You can view current versions of the ACIP vaccine schedules for children 0 - 6 years of age at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/downloads/parent-ver-sch-0-6yrs.pdf and preteens/teens 7 - 18 years of age at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/teen/parent-version-schedule-7-18yrs.pdf.
- Please take your student's updated vaccine record to school every time he or she receives a vaccine.
- If your student cannot get vaccines because of medical reasons, you must submit an official *Immunization Medical Exemption Form* to your school, signed by a health care provider licensed to give vaccines. You only need to submit this form once, unless your student's information or school changes. You can get the form at www.colorado.gov/vaccineexemption.
- If you choose not to have your student vaccinated according to the current ACIP schedule for personal belief or religious reasons, you must submit a non-medical exemption to your school. Non-medical exemptions must be submitted every year. Multiple options are available at www.colorado.gov/vaccineexemption.
- Some parents, especially those with students who have weakened immune systems, may want to know which schools have the highest percentage of vaccinated children. Schools must report immunization and exemption numbers (but not student names or birth dates) to the state health department by December 1 every year. Immunization and exemption rates can be found at www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/school-and-child-care-immunization-data.
- You may want to talk to a health care provider licensed to give vaccines or your local public health agency (LPHA) about which vaccines your student needs or if you have questions. You can read about the safety and importance of vaccines at www.ImmunizeForGood.com and www.colorado.gov/cdphe/immunization-education.
- If you need help finding a health care provider, or finding free or low-cost vaccines, contact your LPHA, or call the state health department's Family Health Line at 1-303-692-2229 or 1-800-688-7777. You can find your LPHA at www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/find-your-local-public-health-agency.
- Please share Page 2 of this letter with your student's health care provider as it provides helpful information about vaccines required for school entry, per Colorado law.

Sincerely,