



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 and/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 health department for an appointment.

Required Shots for School

MINIMUM IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ENTRY (Preschool & K-12)	
Immunization Requirement by Age	Doses of Vaccines Required
Children born on or before September 1, 1999 must have a minimum of:	(4) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) (1) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) (3) Polio (3) Hepatitis B
Children born after September 1, 1999 through September 1, 2005 must have a minimum of:	(5) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) ² (2) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) (3) Polio (3) Hepatitis B
Children born after September 1, 2005 ¹ must have a minimum of:	(5) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) ² (2) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) (4) Polio ³ (3) Hepatitis B (2) Varicella (Chickenpox) ⁴ (2) Hepatitis A

7 th GRADE IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS	
Immunization Requirement by Grade ⁵	Doses of Vaccines Required
Children admitted to 7 th grade must meet the following minimum immunization requirements in addition to school entry requirements:	(1) Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap) (1) Meningococcal

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. At least one dose of polio should be given at age 4 years or older.
4. Varicella: History of chickenpox disease documented by a physician or licensed health care professional meets the requirement.
5. 7th Grade Requirements: These requirements apply to 7th- 12th grade students.

If your child’s record is missing any immunizations, contact your doctor 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 for religious, or other reasons, you may complete a form provided by the school or provide a signed written statement that includes the name of the child, birthdate, and type of exemption being claimed (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.

Reference

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