

2024-25 School Year Immunization Entry Requirements

March 2024

Vermont's Immunization Rule requires vaccination of all children enrolled in center based or family child care, public or independent kindergarten, elementary and secondary schools. Immunizations protect both individuals and the community. An official immunization record must be presented to the school upon admission. If a student doesn't meet the vaccine requirements, or have a current school year exemption on file, they may be temporarily admitted only after the approval of a school nurse or administrator. Failure to meet requirements may result in exclusion from child care or school.

Students entering kindergarten must provide documentation of the following:

- 5 doses of DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis) vaccine
- 4 doses of polio vaccine
- 2 doses of MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine
- 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine
- 2 doses of chickenpox (varicella) vaccine. If the student has previously had chickenpox disease no vaccine or exemption is needed. Parents must submit documentation of disease or sign this form.

Students entering the seventh grade must provide documentation of the following:

- All the immunizations listed above and:
 - One dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) vaccine.
 - For residential students, one or two (age appropriate) doses of meningococcal (MenACWY) vaccine

These requirements also apply to students in any grade entering a new school from outside of their previous supervisory union or district. Students not meeting the vaccine requirements must be vaccinated as outlined in the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's catch up schedule. Medical or religious exemption to one or more vaccines is allowed under the rule. An unaltered form must be submitted to the school. Religious exemptions require annual renewal. Students with an exemption may be excluded from school during a disease outbreak.

Additional information about immunizations and required forms may be found at: <u>Information for Parents and Caregivers | Vermont Department of Health (healthvermont.gov)</u>