

GUIDE TO IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED FOR SCHOOL ENTRY

GRADES TK/K-12



Requirements by Age and Grade Before Entering:

Vaccine	4-6 Years Old Elementary School at Transitional-Kindergarten/ Kindergarten and Above	7-17 Years Old Elementary or Secondary School	7th Grade*
Polio (OPV or IPV)	4 doses (3 doses OK if one was given on or after 4th birthday)	4 doses (3 doses OK if one was given on or after 2nd birthday)	
Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis	5 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT (4 doses OK if one was given on or after 4th birthday)	4 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, Tdap, or Td (3 doses OK if last dose was given on or after 2nd birthday. At least one dose must be Tdap or DTaP/DTP given on or after 7th birthday for all 7th-12th graders.)	1 dose of Tdap (Or DTP/DTaP given on or after the 7th birthday.)
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR or MMR-V)	2 doses (Both given on or after 1st birthday. Only one dose of mumps and rubella vaccines are required if given separately.)	1 dose (Dose given on or after 1st birthday. Mumps vaccine is not required if given separately.)	2 doses of MMR or any measles-containing vaccine (Both doses given on or after 1st birthday.)
Hepatitis B (Hep B or HBV)	3 doses		
Varicella (chickenpox, VAR, MMR-V, or VZV)	1 dose	1 dose for ages 7-12 years. 2 doses for ages 13-17 years.	

*New admissions to 7th grade should also meet the requirements for ages 7-17 years.

INSTRUCTIONS:

California schools are required to check immunization records for all new student admissions at TK/Kindergarten **through** 12th grade and all students advancing to 7th grade before entry.

1. Notify parents of required immunizations and collect immunization records.
2. Copy the date of each vaccine from the child's immunization record to the California School Immunization Record (Blue Card, CDPH-286) and/or supplemental Tdap sticker [PM 286 S (01/11)] or enter into an approved electronic system that prints a Blue Card.
3. Compare number of doses on the Blue Card to the requirements above.
4. Determine whether child can be admitted.

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ADMIT A CHILD UNCONDITIONALLY WHO:

- Has all immunizations required for their age or grade, or
- Is entering 1st-6th grade or 8th-12th grade and submits a valid PBE filed at a prior California school for missing shot(s) and immunization records with dates for all required shots not exempted. **The PBE must have been filed before January 1, 2016 and is only valid for the current grade span (TK/K through 6th or 7th through 12th grade).** For complete details, visit ShotsforSchool.org, or
- Submits a licensed physician’s written statement of a permanent **medical exemption** for missing shot(s) and immunization records with dates for all required shots not exempted.

The immunization requirements do not prohibit pupils from accessing special education and related services required by their individualized education programs.

A CHILD WHO IS MISSING REQUIRED SHOTS MAY BE ADMITTED CONDITIONALLY IF HE/SHE:

- Is missing a dose(s) in a series, but the next dose is not due yet. This means the child has received at least one dose in a series and the deadline for the next dose has **not** passed, according to the table below.
- Has a temporary medical exemption to certain vaccine(s) and has submitted immunization records for vaccines not exempted. The statement must indicate which immunization(s) is postponed and when the exemption expires.

SCHOOLS NEED TO FOLLOW UP AFTER ADMISSION IF:

- Child was admitted conditionally. Notify parents of the deadline for missing doses. Review records every 30 days until all required doses are received.
- Awaiting records for transfers from within California or another state. School may allow admission up to 30 school days before exclusion.

When Missing Doses Can Be Given:

Vaccine	Age (Years)	Missing Dose	Earliest Date After Previous Dose	Deadline After Previous Dose
Polio		2nd	6 weeks	10 weeks
		3rd	6 weeks*	12 months
	4-6	4th	If the 3rd dose was given before the 4th birthday, one more dose is required before admission.	
	7-17	4th	If the 3rd dose was given before the 2nd birthday, one more dose is required before admission.	
DTaP, DTP, or DT	Under 7	2nd or 3rd	4 weeks	8 weeks
		4th	6 months	12 months
		5th	If the 4th dose was given before the 4th birthday, one more dose is required before admission.	
DTaP, DTP, DT, Tdap, or Td	7 & Older	2nd	4 weeks	8 weeks
		3rd	6 months	12 months
		4th	If the 3rd dose was given before the 2nd birthday, one more dose is required before admission.	
MMR		2nd	1 month	3 months
Hep B	4-6	2nd	1 month	2 months
		3rd	2 months after 2nd dose and at least 4 months after 1st dose	6 months after 2nd dose
Varicella	13-17	2nd	4 weeks	3 months

* Current national recommendations for children 4 years and older are to administer the third dose at least 6 months after the second dose.

DO NOT ADMIT A CHILD WHO:

Does not fit one of the previous categories. Refer parents to their physician indicating which doses are needed.

Maintain a list of unimmunized children (exempted or admitted conditionally), so they can be excluded quickly if an outbreak occurs.