



# Parents of Children In or Entering Preschool & Grades K-12

**Why Your Child Needs Shots**

Children must be in compliance with Idaho immunization laws in order to attend school. To be compliant, children must be up-to-date on their immunizations (shots) or have a valid exemption form on file. Whenever children are brought into group settings, there is a 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 exemption form 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
<b>Children born on or before September 1, 1999</b> must have a minimum of:	(4) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) (1) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) (3) Polio (3) Hepatitis B
<b>Children born after September 1, 1999 through September 1, 2005</b> must have a minimum of:	(5) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) <sup>2</sup> (2) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) (3) Polio (3) Hepatitis B
<b>Children born after September 1, 2005<sup>1</sup></b> must have a minimum of:	(5) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP) <sup>2</sup> (2) Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) (4) Polio <sup>3</sup> (3) Hepatitis B (2) Varicella (Chickenpox) <sup>4</sup> (2) Hepatitis A

**7<sup>th</sup> GRADE IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

Immunization Requirement by Grade <sup>5</sup>	Doses of Vaccines Required
<b>Children admitted to 7<sup>th</sup> grade</b> 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 5<sup>th</sup> dose is not necessary if the 4<sup>th</sup> dose was administered at age 4 years or older.
3. Polio: The 4<sup>th</sup> dose is not necessary if the 3<sup>th</sup> 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 currently apply to 7<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.

If your child’s record is missing one or more doses, please 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, he/she can be allowed to attend school, provided you complete the Conditional Admission form and get the remaining doses when they become due. If your child is not fully immunized due to medical, religious, or philosophical reasons, the school can provide you with a state exemption form to complete.

**Reference**

Idaho Code 39-4801 and IDAPA 16.02.15 “Immunization Requirements for Idaho School Children”