

Immunization Requirements

VACCINE SAFETY

- Vaccines are held to the highest standard of safety.
- The United States has the safest, most effective vaccine supply in history.
- Vaccines are continually monitored for safety and effectiveness.

Pennsylvania's school immunization requirements can be found in 28 PA Code Ch.23 (School Immunization).

Proof of immunization means a written record showing the dates (month, day, year) your child was immunized.

The only exceptions to the school laws for immunization are medical reasons and religious beliefs. If your child is exempt from immunizations, your child may be removed from school during a disease outbreak.

Keep a record of your child's immunizations. Keep this record in a safe place. Your doctor's office, medical clinic, or hospital may ask for this record. As your children become adults, they may need the record for college, for their job or if they travel out of the country.

Requirements for all School Students in K-12

- **4** doses of **tetanus** (1 dose after the 4th birthday); 3 doses if the series started after 7 years of age
- **4** doses of **diphtheria** (1 dose after the 4th birthday); 3 doses if the series started after 7 years of age
- **3** doses of **polio**
- **2** doses of **measles**
- **2** doses of **mumps**
- **1** dose of **rubella**
- **3** doses of **hepatitis B**
- **2** doses of **varicella (*chicken pox*)** or written statement from physician/designee indicating month and year of disease or serologic proof of immunity

Requirements for all students in grades 7-12 (in addition to the above vaccines)

- **1** dose of **tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (Tdap)**
- **1** dose of **meningitis vaccine (MCV4)**

Exemptions

The only exemptions to the school laws for immunizations are medical reasons, religious beliefs, or philosophical/strong moral or ethical conviction. If your child is exempt from immunizations, he or she may be removed from school during an outbreak.