



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

JOHN HELLERSTEDT, M.D.
COMMISSIONER

P.O. Box 149347
Austin, Texas 78714-9347
1-888-963-7111
TTY: 1-800-735-2989
www.dshs.state.tx.us

July 19, 2016

RE: Required Immunizations for the 2016-2017 School Year

Dear Superintendent, Administrator, and School Health Staff:

As the upcoming school year approaches, please be reminded of the following information regarding the Texas minimum vaccine requirements for school entry. Immunizations are an important way to ensure the health and well-being of your students, their families, and your community.

Revisions to Title 25, Sections 97.61-97.72 of the Texas Administrative Code, relating to immunization requirements in Texas elementary and secondary schools, will take effect on July 28, 2016. The majority of these changes were made to clarify and update already existing language. However, there are a few changes that should be brought to your attention. The meningococcal vaccine requirement was updated to better reflect national recommendations: beginning SY 2016-2017, one dose of quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4 or MenACWY) is required on or after the student's 11th birthday. Additionally, students in foster care are entitled to a 30 day provisional enrollment period if acceptable evidence of vaccination is not available. Please refer to 25 TAC §§97.61-97.72 to read these updated rules in their entirety.

The *2016-2017 Texas Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Students in Grades K-12* and *2016-2017 Texas Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Child-care Facilities* can be found on the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Immunization Branch website at www.ImmunizeTexas.com. The DSHS Immunization Branch also has numerous resources that may be useful during the back-to-school season, including Frequently Asked Questions, a provisional enrollment flowchart, recommended vaccine schedules, and more. Physical copies of these publications are available free of charge at the following website: www.ImmunizeTexasOrderForm.com. Additionally, two other letters are enclosed in this mailing. One letter addresses provisional enrollment of students and the other is a parent letter that highlights the importance of school-aged vaccinations.

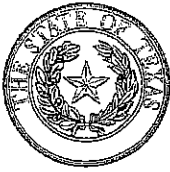
For additional information on immunization requirements, please contact the DSHS Immunization Branch at (800) 252-9152. Thank you for your dedication to keeping Texas students healthy and well. We wish you a rewarding and productive 2016-2017 school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Horton".

Margaret Horton
School Compliance Coordinator
Immunization Branch

Enclosures: Parent Letter
Provisional Enrollment Letter



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July 19, 2016

RE: Required Immunizations for the 2016-2017 School Year

Dear Parents of Students in Texas Schools, Kindergarten through 12th Grade:

State law requires students in Texas schools to be immunized against certain vaccine-preventable diseases. Getting your child vaccinated not only protects your child's health, but also that of the community.

To determine the specific vaccines that are required for your child's grade level, please refer to the *Texas Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Students in Grades K-12*. This document is available on the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Immunization Branch website at www.ImmunizeTexas.com. If you are unsure of where your child can receive vaccines, contact your health-care provider. You may also contact your Health Service Region or Local Health Department for information on local vaccine programs and eligibility requirements.

Should you have any questions about the required vaccines, please consult your health-care provider. You can also visit the DSHS Immunization Branch website at www.ImmunizeTexas.com or call the DSHS Immunization Branch customer service number at (800) 252-9152. Thank you for keeping your child immunized and free from vaccine-preventable diseases. We wish you a rewarding and productive 2016-2017 school year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Horton".

Margaret Horton
School Compliance Coordinator
Immunization Branch



**DEPARTAMENTO ESTATAL DE SERVICIOS DE
SALUD DE TEXAS**

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19 de julio de 2016

Asunto: Vacunas requeridas para el año escolar 2016-2017

Estimados padres de estudiantes en escuelas de Texas, de kínder al 12.º grado:

La ley estatal exige que los estudiantes en escuelas de Texas se inmunicen contra ciertas enfermedades prevenibles con vacunas. Al vacunar a sus hijos no solo protegen la salud de sus hijos sino también la de la comunidad.

Para determinar las vacunas específicas requeridas según el nivel escolar de sus hijos, por favor consulten los *Requisitos de vacunas mínimos estatales de Texas para estudiantes de kínder al 12.º grado*. Este documento está disponible en el sitio web de la División de Inmunización del Departamento Estatal de Servicios de Salud (DSHS) en www.ImmunizeTexas.com. Si no están seguros del lugar donde sus hijos pueden recibir las vacunas, contacten a su proveedor de servicios de salud. También pueden contactar a la región de servicio de salud o al departamento de salud local para informarse sobre los programas de vacunación locales y los requisitos de participación.

Si tienen alguna pregunta sobre las vacunas requeridas, por favor consulten a su proveedor de servicios de salud. También pueden visitar el sitio web de la División de Inmunización del DSHS en www.ImmunizeTexas.com o llamar al número de servicio al cliente (800) 252-9152 de la División de Inmunización del DSHS. Gracias por mantener a sus hijos inmunizados y libres de enfermedades prevenibles con vacunas. ¡Nuestros mejores deseos para que el año-escolar 2016-2017 sea gratificante y productivo!

Atentamente,

Margaret Horton
Coordinadora de Cumplimiento Escolar
División de Inmunización

2016-2017 Texas Minimum State Vaccine Requirements for Students Grades K-12



This chart summarizes the vaccine requirements incorporated in the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Title 25 Health Services, §§97.61-97.72. This document is not intended as a substitute for the TAC, which has other provisions and details. The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is granted authority to set immunization requirements by the Texas Education Code, Chapter 38.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

A student shall show acceptable evidence of vaccination prior to entry, attendance, or transfer to a child-care facility or public or private elementary or secondary school in Texas.

Vaccine Required (Attention to notes and footnotes)	Minimum Number of Doses Required by Grade Level			NOTES
	K - 6th	7th	8th - 12th	
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP/DTP/DT/Td/Tdap) ¹	5 doses or 4 doses	3 dose primary series and 1 Tdap / Td booster within last 5 years	3 dose primary series and 1 Tdap / Td booster within last 10 years	For K - 6th grade: 5 doses of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine; 1 dose must have been received on or after the 4th birthday. However, 4 doses meet the requirement if the 4th dose was received on or after the 4th birthday. For students aged 7 years and older, 3 doses meet the requirement if 1 dose was received on or after the 4th birthday. For 7th grade: 1 dose of Tdap is required if at least 5 years have passed since the last dose of tetanus-containing vaccine. For 8th - 12th grade: 1 dose of Tdap is required when 10 years have passed since the last dose of tetanus-containing vaccine. Td is acceptable in place of Tdap if a medical contraindication to pertussis exists.
Polio ¹		4 doses or 3 doses		For K - 12th grade: 4 doses of polio; 1 dose must be received on or after the 4th birthday. However, 3 doses meet the requirement if the 3rd dose was received on or after the 4th birthday.
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella ^{1,2} (MMR)		2 doses		For K - 12th grade: 2 doses are required, with the 1st dose received on or after the 1st birthday. Students vaccinated prior to 2009 with 2 doses of measles and one dose each of rubella and mumps satisfy this requirement.
Hepatitis B ²		3 doses		For students aged 11 - 15 years, 2 doses meet the requirement if adult hepatitis B vaccine (Recombivax [®]) was received. Dosage (10 mcg / 1.0 mL) and type of vaccine (Recombivax [®]) must be clearly documented. If Recombivax [®] was not the vaccine received, a 3-dose series is required.
Varicella ^{1,2,3}		2 doses		The 1st dose of varicella must be received on or after the 1st birthday. For K - 12th grade: 2 doses are required.
Meningococcal (MCV4) ¹			1 dose	For 7th - 12th grade, 1 dose of quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine is required on or after the student's 11th birthday.
Hepatitis A ^{1,2}		2 doses		The 1st dose of hepatitis A must be received on or after the 1st birthday. For K - 7th grade: 2 doses are required. Special note: a child will not be considered delinquent in this series until 18 months have elapsed since receiving the 1st dose.

NOTE: Shaded area indicates that the vaccine is not required for the respective age group.

- 1 Receipt of the dose up to (and including) 4 days before the birthday will satisfy the school entry immunization requirement.
- 2 Serologic evidence of infection or serologic confirmation of immunity to measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, hepatitis A, or varicella is acceptable in place of vaccine.
- 3 Previous illness may be documented with a written statement from a physician, school nurse, or the child's parent or guardian containing wording such as: "This is to verify that (name of student) had varicella disease (chickenpox) on or about (date) and does not need varicella vaccine." This written statement will be acceptable in place of any and all varicella vaccine doses required.

Exemptions

Texas law allows (a) physicians to write medical exemption statements that the vaccine(s) required would be medically harmful or injurious to the health and well-being of the child or household member, and (b) parents/guardians to choose an exemption from immunization requirements for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief. The law does not allow parents/guardians to elect an exemption simply because of inconvenience (for example, a record is lost or incomplete and it is too much trouble to go to a physician or clinic to correct the problem). Schools should maintain an up-to-date list of students with exemptions, so they may be excluded in times of emergency or epidemic declared by the commissioner of public health.

Instructions for requesting the official exemption affidavit that must be signed by parents/guardians choosing the exemption for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief, can be found at www.ImmunizeTexas.com under "School & Child-Care." Original Exemption Affidavit must be completed and submitted to the school.

For children claiming medical exemptions, a written statement by the physician must be submitted to the school. Unless it is written in the statement that a lifelong condition exists, the exemption statement is valid for only one year from the date signed by the physician.

Provisional Enrollment

All immunizations should be completed by the first date of attendance. The law requires that students be fully vaccinated against the specified diseases. A student may be enrolled provisionally if the student has an immunization record that indicates the student has received at least one dose of each specified age-appropriate vaccine required by this rule. To remain enrolled, the student must complete the required subsequent doses in each vaccine series on schedule and as rapidly as is medically feasible and provide acceptable evidence of vaccination to the school. A school nurse or school administrator shall review the immunization status of a provisionally enrolled student every 30 days to ensure continued compliance in completing the required doses of vaccination. If, at the end of the 30-day period, a student has not received a subsequent dose of vaccine, the student is not in compliance and the school shall exclude the student from school attendance until the required dose is administered.

Additional guidelines for provisional enrollment of students transferring from one Texas public or private school to another, students who are dependents of active duty military, students in foster care, and students who are homeless can be found in the TAC, Title 25 Health Services, Sections 97.66 and 97.69.

Documentation

Since many types of personal immunization records are in use, any document will be acceptable provided a physician or public health personnel has validated it. The month, day, and year that the vaccination was received must be recorded on all school immunization records created or updated after September 1, 1991.

Texas Department of State Health Services • Immunization Branch • MC-1946 • P. O. Box 149347 • Austin, TX 78714-9347 • (800) 252-9152



Requisitos mínimos de vacunas en el estado de Texas de 2016 - 2017 para estudiantes de kínder a 12.º grado



Esta gráfica resume los requisitos de vacunación incorporados al Código Administrativo de Texas (TAC), título 25. Servicios de salud, secciones 97.61 a 97.72. Este documento no tiene como propósito sustituir al TAC, el cual contempla otras disposiciones y detalles. El Código Educativo de Texas, capítulo 38, concede al Departamento Estatal de Servicios de Salud (DSHS) la autoridad para establecer los requisitos de inmunización.

REQUISITOS DE INMUNIZACIÓN

Los estudiantes deberán mostrar comprobantes de vacunación aceptables antes de inscribirse, asistir o ser transferidos a una guardería o una escuela primaria o secundaria pública o privada de Texas.

Vacuna requerida (Vea las notas y las notas de pie de página)	Número mínimo de dosis requeridas por nivel de grado			NOTAS
	Kínder - 6.º	7.º	8.º - 12.º	
Difteria, tétanos, tosferina (DTaP, DTP, DT, Td, Tdap) ¹	5 dosis o 4 dosis	Una serie primaria de 3 dosis y 1 refuerzo de la vacuna Tdap / Td en los últimos 5 años	Una serie primaria de 3 dosis y 1 refuerzo de la vacuna Tdap / Td en los últimos 10 años	Para los grados kínder a 6.º: 5 dosis de la vacuna contra la difteria, el tétanos y la tosferina; debe haberse recibido 1 dosis en o después del 4.º cumpleaños. Sin embargo, con 4 dosis se cubre el requisito si la 4.ª dosis se recibió en o después del 4.º cumpleaños. Para los estudiantes de 7 años de edad o más, con 3 dosis cumplen con el requisito si recibieron 1 de las dosis en o después del 4.º cumpleaños. Para el 7.º grado: Se requiere 1 dosis de la vacuna Tdap si han pasado al menos 5 años desde la última dosis de una vacuna que contenga tétanos. Para los grados 8.º a 12.º: Se requiere 1 dosis de la vacuna Tdap cuando hayan pasado 10 años desde la última dosis de una vacuna que contenga tétanos. La vacuna Td es aceptable en lugar de la vacuna Tdap si existe una contraindicación médica para la vacuna contra la tosferina.
Polio ¹		4 dosis o 3 dosis		Para los grados kínder a 12.º: 4 dosis de la vacuna contra la polio; debe recibirse 1 dosis en o después del 4.º cumpleaños. Sin embargo, con 3 dosis se cumple con el requisito si la 3.ª dosis se recibió en o después del 4.º cumpleaños.
Sarampión, paperas y rubeola ^{1,2} (MMR)		2 dosis		Para los grados kínder a 12.º: Se requieren 2 dosis de la vacuna, la 1.ª de las cuales debe recibirse en o después del 1.º cumpleaños. Los estudiantes que fueron vacunados antes de 2009 con 2 dosis contra el sarampión y una dosis contra la rubeola y una dosis contra las paperas cumplen con este requisito.
Hepatitis B ²		3 dosis		Para los estudiantes de 11 a 15 años de edad, con 2 dosis cumplen con el requisito si recibieron la vacuna contra la hepatitis B para adultos (Recombivax [®]). Tanto la dosis (10 mcg / 1.0 ml) como el tipo de vacuna (Recombivax [®]) deben documentarse claramente. Si la vacuna recibida no fue la Recombivax [®] , se requiere una serie de 3 dosis.
Varicela ^{1,2,3}		2 dosis		La 1.ª dosis de la vacuna contra la varicela debe recibirse en o después del 1.º cumpleaños. Para los grados kínder a 12.º: Se requieren 2 dosis.
Vacuna antimeningocócica (MCV4) ¹		1 dosis		Para los grados 7.º a 12.º: Se requiere 1 dosis de la vacuna antimeningocócica tetravalente conjugada en o después del 11.º cumpleaños del estudiante.
Hepatitis A ^{1,2}		2 dosis		La 1.ª dosis de la vacuna contra la hepatitis A debe recibirse en o después del 1.º cumpleaños. Para los grados kínder a 7.º: Se requieren 2 dosis. Nota especial: No se considerará que el niño se ha retrasado con esta serie hasta que hayan pasado 18 meses desde que recibió la 1.ª dosis.

NOTA: Las casillas sombreadas indican que no se requiere la vacuna para el grupo de edad correspondiente.

¹ Recibir la dosis hasta (e inclusive) 4 días antes del cumpleaños satisfará el requisito de inmunización para inscribirse en la escuela.

² Son aceptables en lugar de la vacuna una prueba serológica de infección o la confirmación serológica de inmunidad al sarampión, las paperas, la rubeola, la hepatitis B, la hepatitis A o la varicela.
³ Si se ha tenido la enfermedad previamente, puede documentarse con una declaración escrita de un médico, un enfermero escolar o uno de los padres o el tutor del niño que diga algo como: "Esto es para comprobar que (nombre del estudiante) tuvo la enfermedad de la varicela el (fecha) o alrededor de esa fecha y no necesita la vacuna contra la varicela". Dicha declaración escrita será aceptable en lugar de alguna o todas las dosis requeridas de la vacuna contra la varicela.

Exenciones

La ley de Texas autoriza a que (a) los médicos redacten declaraciones de exención médica para una vacuna o vacunas requeridas que podrían ser médicamente dañinas o perjudiciales para la salud y el bienestar del niño o de un miembro del hogar, y (b) los padres o tutores opten por una exención de los requisitos de inmunización por razones de conciencia, incluso por creencias religiosas. La ley no permite que los padres o tutores opten por una exención simplemente por incomodidad (por ejemplo, cuando un registro se haya perdido o esté incompleto y sea mucha molestia ir con un médico o una clínica a corregir el problema). Las escuelas deben mantener una lista actualizada de los estudiantes con exenciones, de forma que se les pueda excluir en casos de emergencias o epidemias declaradas por el director de salud pública.

Encontrará las instrucciones para solicitar la declaración jurada de exención oficial que debe ser firmada por los padres o tutores que elijan la exención por razones de conciencia, incluso por creencias religiosas, en www.ImmunizeTexas.com en el enlace para "Escuelas y guarderías". El original de la declaración jurada de exención debe llenarse y entregarse en la escuela.

En el caso de los niños para quienes se reclamen exenciones médicas, es necesario presentar a la escuela una declaración escrita del médico. A menos que en la declaración conste por escrito que existe una afección de por vida, la declaración de exención es válida por solo un año a partir de la fecha en que el médico la firmó.

Inscripción provisional

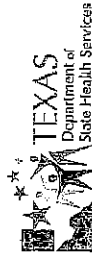
Todas las inmunizaciones deben haberse completado antes de la primera fecha de asistencia. La ley exige que los estudiantes estén completamente vacunados contra las enfermedades específicas. Un estudiante puede inscribirse de manera provisional si cuenta con un registro de inmunización que indique que el estudiante ha recibido al menos una dosis de cada vacuna específica apropiada para su edad que esta regla exige. Para seguir inscrito, el estudiante debe completar las dosis posteriores requeridas de cada serie de vacunas conforme al calendario y tan rápidamente como sea médicamente posible, y proporcionar a la escuela un comprobante aceptable de que ha sido vacunado. Un enfermero escolar o un administrador escolar revisará el estado de inmunización de los estudiantes inscritos de manera provisional cada 30 días para garantizar el cumplimiento ininterrumpido de la aplicación de las dosis de vacunas requeridas. Si, al final del periodo de 30 días, un estudiante no ha recibido una dosis posterior de la vacuna, el estudiante no está cumpliendo y la escuela excluirá al estudiante para que no asista a la escuela hasta que se administre la dosis requerida.

Las pautas adicionales para la inscripción provisional de estudiantes transferidos de una escuela pública o privada de Texas a otra, de estudiantes que dependen de militares en servicio activo, de estudiantes que viven en hogar de acogida y de estudiantes en situación de sin techo, se encuentran en el TAC, título 25, Servicios de salud, secciones 97.66 y 97.69.

Documentación

Dado que se usan muchos tipos de registros de inmunización personales, cualquier documento es aceptable si un médico o el personal de salud pública lo ha validado. Debe registrarse el mes, día y año en que se recibió la vacuna en todos los registros de inmunización escolares creados o actualizados después del 1 de septiembre de 1991.

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HSR 7 Quick Reference Guide Immunization Requirements 2016-2017 School Year

year olds and 4 year olds (PRE K)

✓HIB and PCV not routinely administered to children \geq 5 years of age.

- 4 doses of DTP, DTaP, DT
- 3 doses of Polio
- 1 dose of MMR¹ on/after 1st birthday
- 3 doses of HIB with the 3rd dose given on/after 1st birthday and at least 2 months since dose #2 **OR** 1 dose on/after 15 months of age
- 4 doses of PCV² with one given after 1st birthday **OR** 1 dose on/or after 24 months of age
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B¹
- 1 dose of Varicella¹ on/after 1st birthday (if the child has **NOT** had chickenpox)
- 2 doses of Hepatitis A¹ on/after 1st birthday (must allow **18 months** between doses*)

Kindergarten – Sixth Grade

✓Ages 7 years and older, 3 doses of DTP containing vaccine with one dose on/after 4th birthday.

- 5 doses of DTP, DTaP, DT with one on/after 4th birthday **OR** 4 doses if one dose is on/after the 4th birthday
- 4 doses of Polio with one on/after 4th birthday **OR** 3 doses if one dose is on/after 4th birthday
- 2 doses of MMR¹ on/after 1st birthday
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B^{1,3}
- 2 doses of Varicella¹ on/after 1st birthday (if the child has **NOT** had chickenpox)
- 2 doses of Hepatitis A¹ on/after 1st birthday (must allow **18 months** between doses*)

Seventh Grade

- 3 doses of DTP, DTaP, DT, Td, Tdap with one on/after 4th birthday, **AND** 1 dose of Tdap within the last 5 years. Td is acceptable in lieu of Tdap if a contraindication to pertussis exists.
- 4 doses of Polio with one on/after 4th birthday **OR** 3 doses if one dose is on/after 4th birthday
- 2 doses of MMR¹ on/after 1st birthday
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B^{1,3}
- 2 doses of Varicella^{1,4} on/after 1st birthday (if the child has **NOT** had chickenpox)
- 2 doses of Hepatitis A¹ on/after 1st birthday (must allow **18 months** between doses*)
- ¹ dose of quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV or MenACWY) on or after the student's 11th birthday

Eighth – Twelfth Grade

- 3 doses of DTP, DTaP, DT, Td, Tdap with one on/after 4th birthday, **AND** 1 dose of Tdap is required within the last 10 years. Td is acceptable in lieu of Tdap if a contraindication to pertussis exists.
- 4 doses of Polio⁵ with one on/after 4th birthday **OR** 3 doses if one dose is on/after 4th birthday
- 2 doses of Measles¹, 1 dose of Mumps¹ and 1 dose of Rubella¹ on/after the 1st birthday
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B^{1,3}
- 2 doses of Varicella^{1,4} on/after 1st birthday (if the child has **NOT** had chickenpox)
- 1 dose of quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV or MenACWY) on or after the student's 11th birthday

This chart summarizes the vaccine requirements in Title 25 Health Services, §§ 97.61-97.72 of the Texas Administrative Code. This chart is not intended as a substitute for consulting the Texas Administrative code, which has other provisions and details. http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtacSext_ViewTAC?tac_view=5&t=25&pt=1&ch=97&sch=B&ri=Y

*The recommended interval for Hepatitis A vaccine between dose #1 and dose #2 is 6-18 months. School nurses or officials cannot require dose #2 until at least 18 months have passed since dose #1.

**All vaccine doses administered up to and including 4 days before the minimum interval of age will satisfy school entry immunization requirements

¹ Serologic confirmation of immunity to Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, or Varicella or serologic evidence of infection is acceptable in place of vaccine.

² Other schedules may apply.

³ 2 doses of adult formulation Hepatitis B (Recombivax) administered to a child 11-15 years old are acceptable if manufacturer and mL are clearly documented.

⁴ Previous chickenpox illness may be documented with a written statement from a physician, school nurse, or the child's parent or guardian containing wording such as: "This is to verify that (name of student) had chickenpox disease on or about (date) and does not need varicella vaccine." This written statement will be acceptable in place of any and all Varicella vaccine doses required.

⁵ Polio vaccine is not required for students 18 years or older.

NOTE: This Reference Guide MAY change depending on immunization requirement changes made by DSHS after the revision date.

To receive a copy of this document via email, contact diane.romnes@dshs.state.tx.us or call 254-778-6744.