

Are Your Kids Ready for School?

Minnesota's School Immunization Law

Directions:

- Find the child's age/grade level and read across to the right.
- Look to see whether the child had the number of shots shown by the checkmark(s) under each vaccine.

Note: Each row is meant to be read separately, so don't add up the columns of checkmarks under each vaccine.

Example: A preschooler needs 4 DTaP, then to enter kindergarten he or she needs 1 more DTaP, for a total of 5 (not 9).

	Hep B hepatitis B	DTaP/Tdap/Td diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough)	Polio	MMR measles, mumps, rubella	Hib <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b	Varicella* (chickenpox)
Preschool (age 3-5)		✓✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓	At least ✓	✓
Kindergarten (through Age 6)**	✓✓✓	✓✓✓✓✓ 5 th shot not needed if 4 th was after age 4	✓✓✓✓ 4 th polio not needed if 3 rd was after age 4	✓✓		✓✓
Age 7 through 6th grade	Three doses recommended	At least ✓✓✓	At least ✓✓✓	Two doses recommended		Two doses recommended
7th through 12th grade	✓✓✓ 7 th grade only***	At least ✓✓✓ Plus one more shot at age 11-12 years****	At least ✓✓✓	✓✓		✓✓ 7 th grade only, but recommend- ed for 8-12 th grade

* If the child has already had chickenpox disease, varicella shots are not required but the child's doctor must sign a form.

** First graders who are 6 years old and younger must follow the polio and Tdap/DTaP/Td schedules for kindergarten.

*** An alternate 2-shot schedule of hepatitis B may also be used for kids from age 11 through 15 years.

**** If a child received a Td or Tdap at age 7-10 years they do not need another one at age 11-12 years. However, they must receive another shot of Td or Tdap 10 years after their last one.

To go to school in Minnesota, students must show they've had these immunizations or file a legal exemption with the school.

Parents may file a medical exemption signed by a healthcare provider or a conscientious objection signed by a parent/guardian and notarized.

Other immunizations recommended for school kids, but not required by the School Immunization Law:

- Influenza (flu) – each year for children age 6 months through 18 years – especially those with risk factors like asthma and diabetes.
- Hib – an additional two to three doses (depending on the product used) is recommended for all infants in addition to the one dose at or after 12 months of age required for pre-school.
- Pneumococcal vaccine for all infants.
- Meningococcal at age 11-12 and a booster at age 16 years, all adolescents age 11-18 years should be vaccinated.
- Human papillomavirus (HPV) for adolescents age 11-18 years.
- Hepatitis A for children age 1 year and older.