

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/Td/Tdap 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	✓✓✓	✓✓✓✓✓ 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		At least ✓✓✓	At least ✓✓✓	✓		
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

* Varicella shots not required if child already had chickenpox disease. A second shot will be required for kindergarten and 7th grade in fall, 2009.

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

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

**** The Hib requirement is temporarily suspended due to vaccine shortage.

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.
- Meningococcal for age 11-18.
- Human papillomavirus (HPV) for girls age 11-18.