

# Parents Page

AUGUST 2019

## Immunization

Every U.S. state requires certain immunizations (also known as vaccines, vaccinations, inoculations or shots) for children to attend school. Oregon's immunization law helps protect kids and communities against 11 different diseases: tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox, hepatitis A, hepatitis B and Hib. Some of these diseases are more common than others, but all still exist and can be serious.

To attend public schools, charter schools, private schools, preschools and childcare facilities in Oregon, students must have a complete and up-to-date record of vaccination, medical or nonmedical exemption, or immunity documentation for every immunization required for the student's grade.

## Immunization Requirements

**What parents need to do:** Before a child starts school, the parent or guardian must complete, sign and submit an Oregon Certificate of Immunization Status, showing compliance with state immunization requirements. The information submitted must include the date each immunization was received.

**Which immunizations are required:** Students must be immunized against polio, measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis A (some grades), hepatitis B, varicella (chicken pox), and Tdap (some grades). The number of doses required varies depending on the student's age and grade level. Some other important vaccines are recommended by health care providers but are not required for school attendance.

**Where to get immunizations:** Vaccines are available at Strawberry Wilderness Community clinic (541-575-0404), and Grant County Health Department (541-575-0429). Call for information or to schedule an appointment.

**Medical exemptions:** If there is a medical reason for the student not to have immunizations, the parent must provide a signed letter from a licensed physician documenting the medical exemption or immunity and the reason for it, along with the completed Certificate of Immunization Status. Medical exemptions are reviewed and approved by the health department.

**Nonmedical exemptions:** If a parent seeks a nonmedical exemption from one or more required immunizations, the parent must provide a completed Vaccine Education Certificate, available from a health care practitioner or from the online vaccine education module at <http://www.healthoregon.org/vaccineexemption> along with the completed Certificate of Immunization Status. The Vaccine Education Certificate must be valid for all of the vaccines for which a nonmedical immunization exemption is being sought. A separate certificate is required for each child.

**What if a parent does not show compliance with immunization requirements:** Students must have current school records of all required vaccinations or valid exemptions to continue attending school on and after Exclusion Day, a date set by the State of Oregon that is in February of each school year.

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**Parents, don't let your child get left behind!**   
**School Year 2019-2020**  
 Oregon law requires the following shots for school and child care attendance\*  
 A child 2-17 months entering **Child Care or Early Education** needs\*  
 Check with your child's program or healthcare provider for required vaccines  
 A child 18 months or older entering **Preschool, Child Care, or Head Start** needs\*  
 4 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP)  
 3 Polio  
 1 Varicella (chickenpox)  
 1 Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)  
 3 Hepatitis B  
 2 Hepatitis A  
 3 or 4 Hib  
 A student entering **Kindergarten or Grades 1-6** needs\*  
 5 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP)  
 4 Polio  
 1 Varicella (chickenpox)  
 2 MMR or 2 Measles, 1 Mumps, 1 Rubella  
 3 Hepatitis B  
 2 Hepatitis A  
 A student entering **Grades 7-11** needs\*  
 5 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP)  
 1 Tdap  
 4 Polio  
 1 Varicella (chickenpox)  
 2 MMR or 2 Measles, 1 Mumps, 1 Rubella  
 3 Hepatitis B  
 2 Hepatitis A  
 A student entering **Grade 12** needs\*  
 5 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP)  
 1 Tdap  
 4 Polio  
 1 Varicella (chickenpox)  
 2 MMR or 2 Measles, 1 Mumps, 1 Rubella  
 3 Hepatitis B  
 \*At all ages and grades, the number of doses required varies by a child's age and how long ago they were vaccinated. Other vaccines may be recommended. Exemptions are also available. Please check with your child's school, child care or healthcare provider for details. 1/2019

February 5, 2020 - Health Department mails **exclusion** orders to children's families who are not up-to-date on their **immunizations**.  
 February 19, 2020 - **Exclusion day**. All children who are not up-to-date or complete on their **immunizations** will be excluded from their school or child care facility.