

Maine School Immunization Requirements

Dear Parents / Guardians:

We want to send a reminder about a new law that will take effect on September 1, 2021, that removes both philosophical exemptions and religious exemptions from the exceptions to immunization requirements. Medical exemptions will be the only exemptions allowed. A written medical exemption for one or all vaccines must be provided to the school each school year by an MD, DO, NP, or PA. Philosophical or religious exemptions are only allowable for students with an IEP and exemption in place prior to September 1, 2021. When the new law takes effect, no student will be permitted to be enrolled in public school either remotely or in-person without evidence of immunization or proof of immunity against disease. Laboratory evidence of immunity to specific diseases is accepted in lieu of a specific vaccine.

All students that attend a public or private school in grades Pre-K through 12 in the state of Maine must have the following immunizations before September 1, 2021.

Required for PreK entry: • 4 DTaP • 3 Polio • 1 MMR • 1 Varicella (chickenpox) or reliable documented history provided by a physician or other primary care provider.

Required for Kindergarten entry: • 5 DTaP (4 DTaP if 4th is given on or after 4th birthday) • 4 Polio (3 Polio if the 3rd is given on or after the 4th birthday) • 2 MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) • 1 Varicella (chickenpox) or reliable documented history provided by a physician or other primary care provider

Required for 7th-grade entry: • All previously required vaccines • 1 Tdap • 1 Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine (MCV4)

Since it takes time to complete the immunization series, this is the time to call your child's primary care provider to set up a schedule to start receiving vaccines if your child is going to be able to attend the first day of school this fall. Your school nurse can let you know what immunizations they are missing for school compliance.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and we hope to see your child in school next fall.

Sincerely,

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