

Minimum Immunization Requirements by Grade

Illinois Immunization Requirements

This handout provides details and information about the minimum immunization requirements set by the Illinois Department of Public Health found on **IDPH's website at bit.ly/3DfwZNe**

A student must submit documentation of the required immunizations to complete enrollment in Illinois schools and child care facilities. These requirements apply to public and private schools.



Child Care Facility, Preschool, Early Childhood, & Pre-Kindergarten Programs

Parents or caregivers must submit a complete medical file, including a record of the following immunizations, by the first day.

DTP/DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)	4 doses, with 3 doses by their 1st birthday, and 1 additional dose by the child's 2nd birthday.
Hepatitis B (Hep B)*	3 doses, with the 3rd dose administered on or after 24 weeks of age.
Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib)* †	3–4 doses, given at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months (depending on brand of vaccine), and 12–15 months.
Pneumococcal (PCV)* †	4 doses, given at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, and 12–15 months.
Polio (IPV)	3 doses, 2 by the child's 1st birthday and 1 by their 2nd birthday.
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)	1 dose, on or after their 1st birthday. Earlier doses will not be counted for school requirements.
Varicella (Chickenpox)	1 dose, on or after their 1st birthday.



Kindergarten (Entry to School)

Students must provide proof of having received these immunizations, in addition to those required for Child Care Facility, Preschool, Early Childhood, & Pre-Kindergarten Programs.

DTP/DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)	4 or more doses, the last booster must be given on or after the child's 4th birthday.
Polio (IPV)	4 doses, the 4th dose must be given on or after the child's 4th birthday.
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)	2 doses, the 1st dose on or after their 1st birthday and the 2nd dose no less than 4 weeks (28 days) later.
Varicella (Chickenpox)	2 doses, the 1st dose on or after their 1st birthday and the 2nd dose no less than 4 weeks (28 days) later.



6th Grade (Middle School)

Students must provide proof of having received these immunizations, in addition to those required for kindergarten.

Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis)	1 dose, on or after their 11th birthday.
Hepatitis B (Hep B)	3 doses
Meningococcal (MCV4)	1 dose, on or after their 11th birthday.



12th Grade (High School Senior)

Students must provide proof of having received these immunizations, in addition to those required for 6th grade.

Meningococcal (MCV4)	1 dose on or after their 16th birthday.
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Special Notes

- Proof of vaccinations is required to begin pre-K, kindergarten, 6th grade, 12th grade, and for any transfer students in Illinois.
- Students without proof of vaccinations or an exemption with proper documentation shall be excluded from school until they fulfill the requirements.
- **Catch-up vaccination:** If a child has missed any vaccinations, they can always catch up!
- Don't wait! Required school vaccinations can be administered up to one year before the start of the school year in which they are needed.
- A great website to learn more about vaccines is the American Academy of Pediatrics website: [HealthyChildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org).

Recommended But Not Required Immunizations

There are vaccines that help keep students and school communities healthy during the school year that are not required. These vaccines are still important and help protect children from preventable diseases and even some cancers.

Influenza (Flu)	1 dose, every year for everyone aged 6 months and older.
COVID-19	1 dose, every year for everyone aged 6 months and older.
Human papillomavirus (HPV)	Recommended for everyone between ages 9 and 26, ideally at age 9-12 years. Depending on the timing of their 1st dose, they may need 2 or 3 doses.
Hepatitis A (Hep A)	Recommended as a 2 dose series, beginning at 12 months of age.
Meningococcal B (MenB)	Required for some college programs.

* Indicates the immunization is not required for kindergarten entry.

† The total number of doses may differ and must be verified by your doctor if on a catch-up schedule.