



**Department
of Health**

Public Health Law § 2164

Amendments to Subpart 66-1 School Immunization Requirements

March 17, 2016

Rationale for Updating Regulations

- To incorporate the recent amendment to Public Health Law requiring vaccination against meningococcal meningitis for students enrolling in grades 7 and 12.
- To ensure that children enrolled in pre-kindergarten are fully vaccinated against polio.

New Meningococcal Meningitis Immunization Requirements for the 2016-17 School Year

- 1 dose vaccine against meningococcal type A, C, W and Y (MenACWY) required for grade 7
 - Vaccine brand names: Menactra and Menevo
 - Minimum age for 1st dose is 6 weeks
- 2 doses MenACWY required for grade 12

New Meningococcal Meningitis Immunization Requirements for the 2016-17 School Year (cont.)

- If 1st dose received no more than 4 days before 16 years of age, only 1 dose required
- Minimum interval between doses is 8 weeks
- Minimum age for 2nd dose is 16 years of age

New Meningococcal Meningitis Immunization Requirements for the 2016-17 School Year (cont.)

- If 1st dose MenACWY received more than 4 days before 16 years of age, a 2nd dose is required for grade 12
- Further guidance will be forthcoming for students who received 2 or more doses before 16 years of age

New Meningococcal Meningitis Immunization Requirements for the 2016-17 School Year (cont.)

- Students with rare medical conditions may have received several doses of MenACWY vaccine before 16 years of age
 - Contact NYSDOH for guidance regarding students entering grade 12 who received 2 or more doses of MenACWY vaccines before 16 years of age

Interval Requirements for Grades 9 through 12 in the 2016-17 School Year

- Students enrolling in grades 9 through 12 will be exempted from interval requirements if they have the appropriate number of vaccine doses in accordance with the requirements that were in effect in the 2013-14 school year
 - Exception: must have 28 days between doses 1 and 2 of measles vaccine
 - Students enrolling in grade 12 must still comply with the new meningococcal meningitis vaccine requirement



Vaccine Dose Requirements for Grades 9 through 12 in the 2016-17 School Year

- 3 doses of diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine
 - (DTaP, DTP, DT, Tdap, Td)
- 3 doses of polio vaccine
- 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adult Recombivax for students who receive the doses between 11 and 15 years of age
- 2 doses of measles vaccine and 1 dose of mumps and rubella vaccines (MMR)
 - Minimum interval between the doses of measles vaccine is 28 days

Vaccine Dose Requirements for Grades 9 through 12 in the 2016-17 School Year (cont.)

- 1 dose of varicella vaccine
- Tdap booster dose
- 2 doses MenACWY for grade 12 only
 - 1 dose MenACWY if 1st dose received no more than 4 days before 16 years of age

Certificate of Immunization

- Health care practitioner record
 - Signed by practitioner licensed in New York State
- Records acceptable without a signature
 - NYSIIS or CIR record
 - Official registry record from another state
 - Electronic health record
 - Official record from a foreign nation

Certificate of Immunization (cont.)

- School health record
 - Still acceptable without signature
 - Must be transferred directly from one school to another

Definition of Health Care Practitioner

- Any person authorized by law to administer immunizations which includes:
 - Physician
 - Nurse practitioner
 - Nurse-midwife caring for pregnant student
 - Registered nurse (RN)
 - Licensed practical nurse under direction of RN
 - Physician's Assistant

Polio and Varicella Immunization Requirements for 2016-17 School Year

- Requirements for grades kindergarten, 1, 2, 6, 7 and 8
 - 4 doses of polio vaccine, unless 3rd dose received at 4 years of age or older
 - 2 doses of varicella vaccine
- Intervals between doses of vaccine must be in accordance with ACIP catch-up schedule

Polio and Varicella Immunization Requirements for 2016-17 School Year (cont.)

- Requirements for grades 3 through 5 and 9 through 12
 - 3 doses of polio vaccine
 - Intervals between the doses of polio vaccine not required to be reviewed for accordance with ACIP catch-up schedule
 - 1 dose of varicella vaccine

DTaP, Hepatitis B, Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccine Interval Requirements for Grades Pre-kindergarten Through 8

- The intervals between the required doses of vaccine must be in accordance with the ACIP catch-up schedule

Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib) and Pneumococcal (PCV) Vaccines Interval Requirements for Pre-kindergarten

- Hib and PCV only required for pre-kindergarten
- The intervals between the required doses of vaccine must be in accordance with the ACIP catch-up schedule

Tdap Booster Requirement

- 1 dose of Tdap vaccine for students in grades 6 through 12
 - Tdap is not required until the student turns 11 years of age
 - A dose of Tdap received at 7 years of age or older will meet this requirement

4 Day Grace Period

- May be applied to the minimum age or interval between vaccine doses in a vaccine series for all required vaccines for school entrance/attendance

Diagnosis of Disease as Evidence of Immunity

- Only allowed for varicella
 - No longer allowed for measles or mumps
 - Must be diagnosed by a physician, nurse practitioner or physician's assistant

Serological Evidence of Immunity

- Allowed for measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, hepatitis B and poliomyelitis (all three serotypes must be positive)
 - Equivocal results not acceptable proof of immunity

In Process

- **Definition:** received at least first dose of each immunization series and has age appropriate appointments to complete the immunization series
- ACIP catch-up schedule used to determine appropriate spacing of appointments
 - Alternative vaccine schedules not acceptable

In Process (cont.)

- 30 days allowed for results of serologic testing
 - If results negative, appointment dates must be provided
- School may not refuse admission to a child who meets the definition of “in process” to complete the required immunizations

Medical Exemptions

- Must be reissued annually
- Must contain sufficient information to identify medical contraindication to specific immunization
- Must specify length of time immunization contraindicated
- Medical exemption form available at:

www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/schools

Religious Exemptions

- Sample form titled: Request for Religious Exemption created by the New York State Education Department (SED)
 - Religious exemption form available at:
www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/schools
- Written and signed statement from parent or guardian
- Philosophical exemptions not allowed

Exclusion

- Principal or person in charge of school shall not permit students to attend for more than 14 days without being in compliance with PHL
 - 14 days may be extended to 30 days for students from out of state or country if a good faith effort shown to comply

Exclusion: School Responsibility

- Notify parent or guardian of responsibility to have student immunized and of public resources for immunization
- Notify local health authority of name and address of student and immunizations student needs
- In cooperation with local health authority provide for a time and place where immunizations may be administered

Exclusion:Local Health Authority Responsibility

- Cooperate with school authorities to provide a time and place where immunizations may be administered within 2 weeks of exclusion

Exclusion in the Event of an Outbreak

- Children “in process,” or with medical or religious exemptions, may be excluded in the event of an outbreak
- Schools required to maintain a current list of susceptible children at all times

New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS) and the Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR)

- Provide immunization records that clearly show vaccinations and dates of administration
- Recommend schools use NYSIIS or CIR to determine validity of spacing between doses of vaccine
 - Reports whether doses of vaccine are age appropriate
 - Reports whether intervals between doses are correct

NYSIIS

- Schools must have a Health Commerce System (HCS) account to access NYSIIS
- To request an HCS account, send an email to osas@health.ny.gov
- For more information on NYSIIS
 - Call (518) 473-2839
 - Email nysiis@health.ny.gov

CIR

- For information about accessing CIR, and to set up an online account, call New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene: (347) 396-2400

Educational Materials

- Frequently Asked Questions
 - Revised NYS Immunization Requirements for School Entrance and Attendance (#2370)
 - Materials to be posted at NYSDOH Child Care Programs, Schools and Post-secondary Institutions
- www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/schools

Educational Materials (cont.)

- Information regarding the meningococcal meningitis requirement and the school flyer posted at:
www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/meningococcal

Contact Information

- NYSDOH, Bureau of Immunization, School Assessment and Compliance Unit (518) 474-1944 or osas@health.ny.gov
- Schools in New York City (347) 396-2433

Contact Information

- Capital District area: 518-473-4437
- Central NY Regional Office: 315-477-8164
- Western Regional Office: 716-847-4501
- Rochester Field Office: 585-423-8097
- New Rochelle Field Office: 914-654-7149
- Monticello Field Office: 845-794-2045
- Central Islip Office: 631-851-3096