

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

The Tennessee Department of Health is responsible for immunization requirements for school-aged children through the 12th grade. The state's immunization schedule follows the current schedule published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) and endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

A brief summary of the required immunizations for schools is listed below:

Children enrolling in Kindergarten:

- Hepatitis B (HBV)
- Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (DTaP, or DT if appropriate)
- Poliomyelitis (IPV or OPV) - final dose on or after the 4th birthday
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella - 2 doses of each, usually given together as MMR
- Varicella - 2 doses or credible history of disease
- Hepatitis A - total of 2 doses, spaced at least 6 - 18 months apart

All Children Entering the 7th Grade (including currently enrolled students):

- Tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis booster (Tdap) - evidence of one Tdap dose given any time before 7th grade entry is required regardless of Td history
- Varicella - 2 doses or credible history of disease
- Update to 7th Grade Chickenpox (Varicella) Immunization Requirements

Children who are new enrollees to Tennessee schools in grades other than Kindergarten:

- Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (DTaP, or DT if appropriate)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (2 doses of each, normally given together as MMR)
- Poliomyelitis (IPV or OPV) - final dose on or after the 4th birthday now required
- Varicella (2 doses or credible history of disease) - previously only one dose was required
- Hepatitis B (HBV) - previously only for Kindergarten, 7th grade entry
- New students entering grades other than 7th grade are not required to have Tdap