

Early Child Care Program Requirements



Does my child have to be immunized to attend school or child care?

The Utah Immunization Rule for Students requires proof of immunizations or exemption for all children who attend any of the following schools or early child care programs:

- ♦ Public, charter, private, and parochial schools (*Kindergarten - Grade 12*)
- ♦ Licensed child care centers
- ♦ Licensed Family Home Care
- ♦ Nursery or preschool located within a school
- ♦ Head Start Programs

Children attending early child care programs are required to be appropriately immunized for age. This means a child has received all of the doses of each vaccine appropriate for the child's age. Children should be immunized according to current immunization schedules for the following vaccines:

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| ♦ Diphtheria | ♦ Measles |
| ♦ Tetanus | ♦ Mumps |
| ♦ Pertussis | ♦ Rubella |
| ♦ Polio | ♦ Varicella |
| ♦ Hib (<i>not required after age 5 years</i>) | ♦ Hepatitis A |
| ♦ Pneumococcal Conjugate (<i>not required after age 5 years</i>) | ♦ Hepatitis B |

NOTE: Rotavirus and Influenza vaccines are also recommended, but not required, for children in early child care programs. For a complete childhood immunization schedule, visit: immunize-utah.org



For more information, contact your health care provider, public health department or the Immunization Hotline at:

1-800-275-0659 or
www.immunize-utah.org

The Utah School Immunization Rule



Utah Department of Health
Immunization Program



School Entry Requirements



Kindergarten Entry Requirements

The following vaccines are required for students entering Kindergarten:

- 5 DTP/DTaP/DT - 4 doses if 4th dose was given on/after the 4th birthday
- 4 Polio - 3 doses if 3rd dose was given on/after the 4th birthday
- 2 Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)
- 3 Hepatitis B
- 2 Hepatitis A
- 2 Varicella (*Chickenpox*) - history of disease is acceptable, parent must sign verification statement.



Seventh Grade Entry Requirements

The following vaccines are required for students entering seventh grade:

- 1 Meningococcal
- 1 Tdap (*Tetanus/Diphtheria/acellular Pertussis*)
- 2 Varicella (*Chickenpox*) - history of disease is acceptable, parent must sign verification statement
- 3 Hepatitis B

Kindergarten through Grade 12 - ALL students kindergarten through grade 12 are required to have two doses of the MMR vaccine.

Questions and Answers

How can I be sure that my child has all the required immunizations?

Follow the immunization schedule and keep a written record for each child. Update your child's record each time vaccines are given. Give a copy to your child's school or child care program at registration. Remember - you need written proof of all immunizations. Nothing else will be accepted.

What is "written proof?"

Records from a doctor, pharmacy, health department, community health center, or Utah Statewide Immunization Information System (USIIS) are acceptable. The record must include the child's name, date of birth, type of vaccines and dates given. The date must include the month, day and year.

What if I don't have a written record?

Ask your health care provider, public clinic, USIIS immunization registry or any school or child care program your child attended in the past if they have records. If you still can't find the records, your child will need to get the vaccines again.

What if my child had a vaccine too early or too late?

If your child received a vaccine too soon, the vaccine must be repeated. For example, a child who had the first MMR vaccine before the first birthday will need that vaccine again. If a vaccine dose is given late or a child is behind, the vaccine does not need to be started over.

What about vaccines given outside the U.S.?

Vaccines given in another country are acceptable if the schedule is similar to the U.S. schedule. You will need a written record of all vaccines, including the dates all vaccines were given.

Is there a "grace period" to get my child immunized?

No. To protect the health of all children, school or child care officials cannot admit a child without written proof of immunizations. However, children can be admitted if they qualify for "conditional enrollment."

What is conditional enrollment?

A child may be conditionally enrolled in a school or child care program if the child has received at least one dose of each vaccine required for his/her age and is currently on schedule to complete the remaining doses. If the child does not get the next vaccine within one calendar month after the scheduled due date, conditional enrollment ends and the child will be excluded from attendance.

Can a child be exempted from the Utah Immunization Rule for Students?

Yes. There are three types of exemptions allowed in Utah for students Kindergarten through Grade 12. A copy of the exemption form must be given to the school or child care official to place in the student's permanent file. Parents should retain a copy.

Medical Exemption

Parents or guardians may claim a medical exemption for a child who may not be medically able to receive vaccines. To claim this exemption, a child's licensed health care provider must complete the official Utah Department of Health Medical Exemption Form and indicate if it is for one or more vaccines. Providers can obtain the form from the Utah Immunization Program.

Personal or Philosophical

Parents or guardians who have personal or philosophical beliefs against immunization may claim this exemption. An official Utah Department of Health Personal Exemption Form may be obtained at any local health department and must be witnessed by a health department official.

Religious

Parents or guardians who are members of religious groups whose doctrine opposes immunization may claim this exemption. An official Utah Department of Health Religious Exemption Form may be obtained at any local health department and must be witnessed by a health department official.

NOTE: In the event of an outbreak of any vaccine preventable disease, children claiming any exemption will be kept out of school or child care as long as the outbreak lasts. This rule helps protect unvaccinated children from getting these diseases.

Immunize for Healthy Lives!