



SEPTEMBER 2026

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CHILD CARE AND NEW SCHOOL ENTRANTS

(PUBLIC, PRIVATE, PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS AND CHILD CARE CENTERS)

ALL STUDENTS ENTERING A NEW YORK CITY (NYC) SCHOOL OR CHILD CARE FOR THE FIRST TIME MUST HAVE

A COMPLETE PHYSICAL EXAMINATION AND ALL REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS

The comprehensive medical examination must be documented on a Child Adolescent Health Examination Form (CH205) and include the following:

Weight	Body Mass Index	Medical History
Height	Vision Screening	Developmental Assessment
Blood Pressure	Hearing Screening	Nutritional Evaluation
	Dental Screening	

All students entering NYC public or private schools or child care (including Universal 2K, 3K, and Pre-Kindergarten classes) for the first time must submit a report of a physical examination performed within one year of school entry. Because children develop and grow so quickly at these early ages, if this initial examination is performed before the student is age 5 years, a second examination, performed between the child's fifth and sixth birthdays, is also required. Fillable CH-205 forms that include the student's pre-populated vaccination histories are available in the NYC Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR). A savable version of the pre-populated CH205 is also available in the CIR and is accessible for use to update as needed. For school year 2026-2027, the previous version of the CH205 form produced from the Online Registry will continue to be accepted until it is replaced by the new version. Only the following licensed providers are permitted/authorized to complete and sign a CH205: Medical Doctor (MD), Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO), Physician Assistant (PA), and Nurse Practitioner (NP) and the provider must be licensed in NY, NJ, or CT.

Required Screening for Child Care Only

Screening	Required Information
Anemia Screening	Hematocrit and Hemoglobin
Lead Screening, Assessment and Testing	- All children under age 6 years must be assessed annually for lead exposure. - Blood lead tests are required for children at ages 1 and 2 years AND other children up to age 6 years if they are at risk of exposure OR if no lead test was previously documented. - For more information, call the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 311, or visit https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/lead/lead-guidelines-children.pdf

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS 2026–2027

The following immunization requirements are mandated by law for all students between the ages of 2 months and 18 years (i.e., until they reach the age of 18 years). Children must be excluded from school if they do not meet these requirements. To be considered fully immunized, a child must have an immunization history that includes all of the vaccines listed in the Full Compliance table. The child's immunization record should be evaluated according to the grade they are attending this school year.

PROVISIONAL REQUIREMENTS

New students may enter school or child care provisionally with documentation of at least the first dose of each vaccine series for immunizations required for the child's grade. Once admitted provisionally, subsequent vaccines must be administered in accordance with the with the [NYS Public Health Law Section 2164](#) and the [NYS Immunization requirements](#) for the child to be considered "in process" and remain in school. If a child does not receive subsequent doses of vaccine at appropriate intervals, the child is no longer in process and must be excluded from school no later than 14 days after the minimum interval. Alternative schedules are not acceptable. Students must complete the entire series to comply with the law. Students who have not been immunized within the provisional period must be issued exclusion letters and excluded from school or child care until they comply with the requirements.

VACCINES	CHILD CARE, HEAD START, NURSERY, 2K, 3K, OR PRE-KINDERGARTEN	KINDERGARTEN through GRADE 12
Diphtheria and tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine and pertussis vaccine (DTaP/DTP/Tdap) ²	One dose DTaP or DTP	<u>Grades K-5:</u> One dose DTaP, DTP; or Tdap (ages 7 years or older) <u>Grades 6-12:</u> one dose of Tdap
Polio vaccine (IPV/OPV) ^{1,4}	One dose	One dose
Measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine (MMR) ^{1,5} On or after the first birthday	One dose	One dose
Hepatitis B (HepB) vaccine ^{1,6}	One dose	One dose
Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine ^{1,7} On or after the first birthday	One dose	One dose
Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY) ⁸ Grades 7 through 12		One dose
Haemophilus influenzae type b conjugate vaccine (Hib) ⁹ Through age 59 months (up until the 5 th birthday)	One dose	
Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) ¹⁰ Through age 59 months (up until the 5 th birthday)	One dose	
Influenza ¹¹ Depending on their influenza vaccine history, some children may need two doses of influenza vaccine. A second dose is not required for child care/pre-K attendance.	One dose	

2026–27: FULL COMPLIANCE

New York State Immunization Requirements for Child Care and School Entrance/Attendance

For all settings and grades (child care, head start, nursery, 2K, 3K, pre-K-12), intervals between doses of vaccine should be in accordance with the NY Codes, Rules and Regulations, title 10, subpart 66.1 and NYS Public Health Law Section 2164. Only doses received no sooner than 4 calendar days of the recommended minimum age or interval are valid and count (4-day grace period); there is no “maximum interval” between doses. The 4-day grace period does not apply to the recommended 28-day minimum interval between a dose of MMR and varicella vaccines. Refer to the footnotes for dose requirements and specific information about each vaccine, including other exceptions to the 4-day grace period. Children enrolling in gradeless classes should meet immunization requirements for their age-equivalent grade. Children who were not in full compliance before the start of the school year must complete requirements in order to remain in child care or school. **This table MUST be read with footnotes, which explain the routine and catch-up schedule requirements.**

VACCINES	CHILD CARE, HEAD START, NURSERY, 2K, 3K OR PRE-KINDERGARTEN	KINDERGARTEN through Grade 5	GRADES 6 through 12
Diphtheria and tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine and pertussis vaccines (DTaP/DTP/Tdap/Td)² Footnote explains vaccine type by age	4 doses	5 doses or 4 doses if the fourth dose was received at age 4 years or older or 3 doses if the child is age 7 years or older and the series was started at age 1 year or older	3 doses
Tdap booster³		Not Applicable	1 dose given at age 10 years or older
Polio vaccine (IPV/OPV)^{1,4}	3 doses	4 doses or 3 doses if the third dose was received at age 4 years or older	
Measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine (MMR)^{1,5}	1 dose		2 doses
Hepatitis B (HepB) vaccine^{1,6}	3 doses	3 doses	3 doses or 2 doses of adult hepatitis B vaccine (Recombivax HB[®]) for children who received the doses at least 4 months apart between the ages of 11 through 15 years
Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine^{1,7}	1 dose		2 doses
Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY)⁸		Not Applicable	Grades 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11: 1 dose, given at age 10 years or older Grade 12: 2 doses or 1 dose if the first dose was received at age 16 years or older
Haemophilus influenzae type b conjugate vaccine (Hib)⁹	1 to 4 doses		Not Applicable
Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV)¹⁰	1 to 4 doses		Not Applicable
Influenza¹¹	1 dose		Not Applicable

For more information: NYC Health Department, Bureau of Immunization: 347-396-2433 or school_immunizations@health.nyc.gov; Office of School Health (all districts): 311. NYS Department of Health, Bureau of Immunization: 518-473-4437 or OSAS@health.ny.gov

- Documented serologic evidence of immunity to measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, or varicella meets the requirements for these immunizations. Serologic evidence of immunity to polio is acceptable only if results are positive for all three serotypes and testing was done prior to September 1, 2019. Diagnosis by a physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner that a child had varicella disease is acceptable proof of immunity to varicella. Serologies are never accepted for tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, meningococcal, *Haemophilus influenzae* type b, and pneumococcal diseases.
- Diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis (DTaP) vaccine -- (Minimum age: 6 weeks)**
 - Children starting the series on time should receive a five-dose series of DTaP vaccine at ages 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 15 through 18 months, and age 4 years or older. The fourth dose may be received as early as age 12 months, provided at least 6 months have elapsed since the third dose. However, when retrospectively identified, the fourth dose need not be repeated if it was administered at least 4 months after the third dose. The final dose in the series must be received on or after the fourth birthday and at least 6 months after the prior dose.
 - If the fourth dose was administered at age 4 years or older, the fifth (booster) dose is not necessary.
 - If the fifth dose was received prior to the fourth birthday, a sixth dose, administered at least 6 months after the prior dose, is required.
 - Children ages 7 years and older who are not fully immunized with the childhood DTaP vaccine series should receive Tdap vaccine as the first dose in the catch-up series; if additional doses are needed, either Tdap or Td should be used. The Tdap dose may count towards the Tdap requirement according to grade (see footnote 3d). If the first dose of DTaP/DTP was received before the first birthday, then four total doses are required to complete the series. If the first dose of DTaP/DTP was received on or after the first birthday, then three total doses are required to complete the series. The final dose must be received on or after the fourth birthday.
- Tetanus and diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine -- (Minimum age: 10 years) (the 4-day grace period does not apply).**
 - Children ages 11 years or older entering grades 6 through 12 are required to have one dose of Tdap.
 - Children without Tdap who are age 10 years upon entry to 6th grade are in compliance until they turn age 11 years.
 - In addition to the grade 6 through 12 requirement, Tdap may also be given as part of the catch-up series for students 7 years of age and older who are not fully immunized with the childhood DTaP series (see footnote 2d).
 - DTaP should NOT be used on or after the 7th birthday but if inadvertently received, the Tdap requirement is satisfied by doses of DTaP (see footnote 3c).
- Inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV) or oral polio vaccine (OPV) -- (Minimum age: 6 weeks).**
 - Children starting the series on time should receive IPV at ages 2 months, 4 months, 6 through 18 months and age 4 years or older. The final dose in the series must be received on or after the fourth birthday and at least 6 months after the prior dose.
 - For children who received their fourth dose before age 4 years: if the 4th dose was prior to August 7, 2010, four doses separated by at least four weeks (28 days) is sufficient.
 - If the third dose was received at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the prior dose, a fourth dose is not necessary.
 - If both OPV and IPV were administered as part of a series, the total number of doses and intervals between doses is the same as that recommended for the IPV schedule. For OPV to count towards the completion of the polio series, the dose(s) must have been given before April 1, 2016, and be clearly identified as trivalent (tOPV).
- Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine -- (Minimum age: 12 months)**
 - The first dose of MMR vaccine must be given on or after the first birthday. The second dose must be given at least four weeks (28 days) after the first dose to be considered valid.
 - Children in kindergarten through grade 12 must receive two doses of measles-containing vaccine, two doses of mumps-containing vaccine and at least one dose of rubella-containing vaccine.
- Hepatitis B (HepB) vaccine -- (Minimum age: birth)**
 - The first dose of HepB vaccine may be given at birth or anytime thereafter. The second dose must be given at least four weeks (28 days) after the first dose. The third dose must be given at least eight weeks after the second dose AND at least 16 weeks after dose one AND no earlier than 24 weeks of age.
 - Administration of a total of four doses is permitted when a combination vaccine containing HepB is administered after the birth dose. This fourth dose is often needed to ensure that the last dose in the series is given on or after age 6 months.
 - Two doses of adult HepB vaccine (Recombivax[®]) received at least four months apart at age 11 through 15 years will meet the requirement.
- Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine -- (Minimum age: 12 months)**
 - The first dose of varicella vaccine must be given on or after the first birthday. The second dose must be given at least four weeks (28 days) after the first dose to be considered valid.
 - For children younger than age 13 years, the recommended minimum interval between doses is three months; four weeks (28 days) after the first dose is valid (the 4-day grace period does NOT apply).
 - For children aged 13 years and older, the recommended minimum interval between doses is four weeks (28 days) (the 4-day grace period applies).
- Meningococcal Vaccine (MenACWY) -- (Minimum age: 10 years) (the 4-day grace period does not apply).**
 - Children entering grades 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are required to receive a single dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine against serogroups A, C, W-135 and Y (MenACWY vaccines).
 - Children entering grade 12 need to receive two doses of MenACWY vaccine, or only one dose of MenACWY vaccine if the first dose was administered at age 16 years or older.
 - If the second dose was administered before age 16 years, then a third dose given on or after age 16 years is required.
 - The minimum interval between doses of MenACWY vaccine is eight weeks.
- Haemophilus influenzae type b conjugate vaccine (Hib) -- (Minimum age: 6 weeks)**
 - Children starting the series on time and receiving PRP-T Hib vaccine should receive doses at ages 2 months, 4 months, 6 months and 12 through 15 months. If the formulation is PRP-OMP, only two doses are needed before age 12 through 15 months.
 - Unvaccinated children under 12 months of age: for those starting at 3 months to 6 months must receive three doses (two doses if PRP-OMP) by 12 months of age and those starting at ages 7 through 11 months must receive two doses by 12 months of age; doses must be four weeks (28 days) apart. Must be followed by a final dose at age 12 through 15 months and eight weeks after the prior dose.
 - Unvaccinated children ages 12 through 14 months must receive two doses eight weeks apart.
 - Unvaccinated children ages 15 through 59 months must receive one dose.
 - Hib vaccine is not required for children ages 5 years or older.
- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) -- (Minimum age: 6 weeks).**
 - Children starting the series on time should receive PCV vaccine at ages 2 months, 4 months, 6 months and 12 through 15 months.
 - Unvaccinated children under 12 months of age: for those starting at 3 months to 6 months must receive three doses by 12 months of age and those starting at ages 7 through 11 months must receive two doses; doses by 12 months of age; doses must be four weeks (28 days) apart. Must be followed by a final dose at age 12 through 15 months and eight weeks after the prior dose.
 - Unvaccinated children ages 12 through 23 months must receive two doses at least eight weeks apart.
 - Unvaccinated children ages 24 through 59 months must receive one dose.
 - PCV vaccine is not required for children ages 5 years or older.
- Influenza Vaccine -- (Minimum age: 6 months)**
 - Children 6 months through 59 months of age enrolled in NYC Article 47 & 43 regulated Child Care, Head Start, Nursery, or Pre-K programs must receive one dose of influenza vaccine between July 1 and December 31 of each year.
 - Depending on their prior influenza vaccination history, some children may need two doses of influenza vaccine; however, a second dose is not required for school entry. Please see www.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/flu-seasonal.page