

# Are Your Kids Ready for School?

## Minnesota's School Immunization Law

Directions:

- Find the child's age/grade level and read across to the right.
- Look to see whether the child had the number of shots shown by the checkmark(s) under each vaccine.

Note: Each row is meant to be read separately, so don't add up the columns of checkmarks under each vaccine.

**Example:** A preschooler needs 4 DTaP, then to enter kindergarten he or she needs 1 more DTaP, for a total of 5 (not 9).

	<b>Hep B</b> hepatitis B	<b>Tdap/DTaP/Td</b> diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough)	<b>Polio</b>	<b>MMR</b> measles, mumps, rubella	<b>Hib</b> <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b	<b>Varicella*</b> (chickenpox)
<b>Preschool</b> (age 3-5)		✓✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓	At least ✓	✓
<b>Kindergarten**</b>	✓✓✓	✓✓✓✓✓ 5 <sup>th</sup> shot not needed if 4 <sup>th</sup> was after age 4	✓✓✓✓ 4 <sup>th</sup> polio not needed if 3 <sup>rd</sup> was after age 4	✓✓		✓✓
<b>Age 7 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade</b>		At least ✓✓✓	At least ✓✓✓	✓		
<b>7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	✓✓✓ 7 <sup>th</sup> grade only***	At least ✓✓✓ Plus one more shot at age 11-12 years****	At least ✓✓✓	✓✓		✓✓ 7 <sup>th</sup> grade only

\* Varicella shot(s) not required if a child's doctor signs a form saying the child has already had chickenpox disease.

\*\* First graders who are 6 years old and younger must follow the polio and Tdap/DTaP/Td schedules for kindergarten.

\*\*\* An alternate 2-shot schedule of hepatitis B may also be used for kids from age 11 through 15 years.

\*\*\*\* If a child received a Td at age 7-10 years they do not necessarily need another one at age 11-12. However, they must receive another shot of Td or Tdap 10 years after their last one.

**To go to school in Minnesota, students must show they've had these immunizations or file a legal exemption with the school.**

Parents may file a medical exemption signed by a healthcare provider or a conscientious objection signed by a parent/guardian and notarized.

Other immunizations recommended for school kids, but not required by the School Immunization Law:

- Influenza (flu) – each year for children age 6 months through 18 years – especially those with risk factors like asthma and diabetes.
- Hib – an additional two to three doses (depending on the product used) is recommended in addition to the one dose at or after 12 months of age required for school.
- Meningococcal for age 11-18.
- Human papillomavirus (HPV) for girls age 11-18.
- Hepatitis A