

Dear Parent/Guardian:

**Key Points Related to Claiming a Nonmedical Immunization Waiver for Children
Attending Michigan Schools and Licensed Childcare Programs**



In early 2015, Michigan instituted an administrative rule change on nonmedical waivers for childhood immunizations. Parents/guardians seeking to obtain a nonmedical immunization waiver for their child/children who are enrolled in school or licensed childcare programs are required to attend an educational session, where they are provided with information about vaccine-preventable diseases and vaccinations.

Key Points

- The rule applies to parents/guardians seeking a nonmedical immunization waiver for their child/children enrolled in public or private:
 - Licensed childcare, preschool, and Head Start programs
 - Kindergarten, 7th grade, and any newly enrolled student into the school district
- This rule preserves your ability to obtain a nonmedical waiver.
- Nonmedical waivers (religious or philosophical/other objections) are available at your county health department and cannot be found at schools/childcare programs or physician offices.
- Parents/Guardians are required to follow these steps when seeking a nonmedical waiver:
 1. Contact your county health department for an appointment to speak with a health educator.
 2. During the visit, immunization-related questions and concerns of the parents/guardians can be brought up for discussion. The staff will present evidence-based information regarding the risks of vaccine-preventable diseases and the benefits/potential risks (risks consisting mostly moderate side effects) of vaccination.
 3. Schools/childcare programs will only accept the current, un-altered, official State of Michigan form (Any new waivers issued should have the revision date of January 1, 2020.)
 - A county health department will not issue a waiver without both signatures as it would be considered an incomplete and invalid waiver.
 - Forms cannot be altered in any way (this includes crossing information out).
 4. Take the current, certified waiver form to your child's school or childcare program.
- If your child has a medical reason (that is, a true medical contraindication or precaution) for not receiving a vaccine, a physician (MD/DO) must sign the State of Michigan Medical Contraindication Form.
- Based on the public health code, a child without an up-to-date immunization record, a certified nonmedical waiver form, **or** a physician (MD/DO)-signed medical waiver shall be excluded from school/childcare.

For more information, please visit www.michigan.gov/immunize > click on *Local Health Departments* > click on *Immunization Waiver Information*. This website will provide you with a link to all the county health departments, along with their addresses and phone numbers.

SCHOOLS VACCINES REQUIRED FOR SCHOOL ENTRY IN MICHIGAN

Whenever children are brought into group settings, there is a chance for diseases to spread. Students must follow state vaccine laws in order to attend school. These laws are the minimum standard to help prevent disease outbreaks in school settings. The best way to protect students in your care from other serious diseases is to promote the recommended vaccination schedule at www.cdc.gov/vaccines. Encourage parents to follow CDC's recommended schedule; by doing so, school requirements will be met.



	All Kindergarteners and 4-6 year old transfer students	All 7th Graders and 7-18 year old transfer students
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTP, DTaP, Tdap)	4 doses DTP or DTaP 1 dose must be at or after 4 years of age	4 doses diphtheria and tetanus or 3 doses if 1st dose given at or after 1 year of age 1 dose Tdap at 11 years of age or older upon entry into 7th grade or higher
Polio	4 doses 3 doses if dose 3 was given at or after 4 years of age	
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)*	2 doses at or after 12 months of age	
Hepatitis B*	3 doses	
Meningococcal Conjugate (MenACWY)	None	1 dose at 11 years of age or older upon entry into 7th grade or higher
Varicella (Chickenpox)*	2 doses at or after 12 months of age or Current lab immunity or History of varicella disease	

During disease outbreaks, incompletely vaccinated students may be excluded from school. Parents and guardians choosing to decline vaccines must obtain a certified non-medical waiver from a local health department. Read more about waivers at www.Michigan.gov/Immunize.

*If the student has not received these vaccines, documented immunity is required.

All doses of vaccines must be valid (correct spacing and ages) for school entry purposes.

